

DATE DUE

# Romulus News

NOVEMBER 4, 2005 – NOVEMBER 17, 2005

"the little paper"

VOLUME 19 NUMBER 8

## Timely Tidbits ...

### Vote November 8!

Just a reminder that the City's mayoral, clerk, treasurer, and council races will be decided in the General Election set for Tuesday, November 8. Polls will be open from 7 a.m. until 8 p.m.

For more information, please contact the City Clerk's Office at 734-942-7540.

### Barth Craft Show

Barth Elementary School will host its third annual Craft/Vendor Bazaar from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, November 19, at the school (38207 Barth Road).

Crafters/vendors interested in participating may contact Theresa Beard, the school's parent coordinator, at either 734-532-1250 or 734-941-7482.

Fees are \$20 per space and \$5 per table (limited); electricity available (limited). The deadline for registration is Monday, November 14.

### Fall Craft Show

Romulus Progressive Club is inviting the public to attend its Fall Craft Show, which will be held at Progressive Hall (11580 Ozga) on Saturday, November 5, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Featured items will include wood crafts, country crafts, baskets, wreaths, candles, jewelry, purses, hats, and candy, along with Avon, Mary Kay, and Home Interiors products.

Concession food will be available, as well.

### "Hot Chicken Salad Luncheon" at CUMC

Community United Methodist Church will host its 20th annual Hot Chicken Salad Luncheon at the church (11160 Olive) on Friday, November 4, between 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

Donation is \$9 per person. Call Wanda (734-942-7995), Mary (734-941-0403), or the church office (941-0736) for tickets. Proceeds go to the Building Fund.

Delivery available for orders of 6 or more. □

## Romulus Mayoral Candidates Share Views

By Kristi Stephens

The *Romulus News* recently invited mayoral candidates Alan R. Lambert and Debbie Romak to respond to a brief questionnaire to help voters prepare for the election on Tuesday, November 8.

Most of the questions were deliberately general in format, giving the candidates a chance to focus on the issues of their choice. Personal data was also solicited to give voters some idea about their background, experience, and knowledge of/dedication to our community.

No word limit was placed on the responses.

The questions were:

### Question #1

With the understanding that a mayor has a multitude of duties and responsibilities, what *single* issue is your primary concern as you seek (re) election?

### Question #2

In the next four years, what *single* administrative department will require the most growth/change in policies, personnel, equipment, and/or facilities to keep pace with the City's needs? What would those changes involve?

### Question #3

Development has been a controversial issue of late. What do you believe will be the long-term impact of the following developments that are either currently underway or being considered for the future? (Please include your thoughts about how they will affect the City's finances and resources, residents, and opportunities for future development.)

- (a) the new Senior Center
- (b) the new Recreation Center
- (c) horse racing
- (d) casino gaming

### Question #4

What other types of development should be pursued in the future, and how would you go about bringing them to fruition? (Please be *specific*.) What types should be discouraged?

### Question #5

Of all the actions taken and policies pursued by the Romulus City Council in the past four years, which *one* would you most like to see changed? Keeping in mind the powers and limitations of your position, how would you work with Council to accomplish such a change?

### Question #6

Why are you seeking (re)election to the mayor's office, and what makes you the *best* candidate for the job?

Candidates' responses begin at right.



Alan R. Lambert (incumbent)

### Alan R. Lambert

- **Age:** 50
- **Education:** Romulus High School; continued education during four-year term (business management, finance, and planning)
- **Occupation:** Mayor, City of Romulus
- **Military service:** none
- **Current nonprofessional government/school/community-service/church memberships:** [no response]
- **Other community-service work performed in the last 12 months:** MLK Walk; Romulus Goodfellows; St. John's Lodge – Katrina Relief Drive
- **Marital status/name of spouse:** single
- **Children:** Cary (29), Sara (27), Jennifer (25), Kalena (21), and Justin (18).
- **Number of years as a Romulus resident:** 50
- **Phone number:** 734-955-4500; 734-740-1099

### Question #1

My number-one priority is to reduce taxes. While the City of Romulus millage rate is one of the lowest in Wayne County, our schools millage remains among the highest. We need to work closely with the schools to help them reduce the schools' portion of the millage. We must work closely with the schools to reduce the tax burden on our

*continued on page 11*



Debbie Romak

### Debbie Romak

- **Age:** 58
- **Education:** Romulus High School (1972 graduate)
- **Occupation:** store manager, JLH Investments
- **Military service:** [no response]
- **Current nonprofessional government/school/community-service/church memberships:** 10-year Romulus City Council member (4 of 10 as Chairwoman Pro Tem); American Progressive Association (public relations)
- **Other community-service work performed in the last 12 months:** honorary member of Cub Scout Pack #739 for generosity and support; Romulus Goodfellows; assisted in Hurricane Relief efforts at Coleman Center; read to children in the Head Start program; Romulus High School baseball sponsor
- **Marital status/name of spouse:** married for 31 years to Theodore
- **Children (if any):** Ryan and Lauren
- **Number of years as a Romulus resident:** lifelong resident
- **Phone number:** 734-941-3623 (home); 941-5947 (campaign office)

### Question #1

It is difficult to choose one issue that is my primary concern, so I would have to say taxes and jobs, which are interrelated. These two issues are first and

*continued on page 11*



## Letters to the Editor

*Editor's note: All letters to the editor MUST contain the writer's signature and a telephone number where he/she can be reached in order to verify the letter's authenticity. Names will be withheld by request only in exceptional cases where, in our opinion, there is a legitimate reason to do so. All letters requesting anonymity will be treated confidentially, regardless of whether or not they are published in the paper.*

The Romulus News reserves the right to edit all letters for clarity and, if necessary, brevity.

### Romak Letter Addressed

To the Editor:

In a "Letter to the Editor" that appeared in the October 21, 2005 issue of *The Romulus News*, mayoral candidate Debbie Romak wrote, "I find it interesting that Mr. [Todd] Hauter has resorted to a campaign of character assassination against me, rather than respond to my positions on the serious issues in this campaign. Mr. Hauter apparently cannot find fault with my positions, so he has attempted to smear my character through his letters."

A campaign of character assassination? No – this whole thing began with Councilwoman Romak's tongue-lashing of Council Chairman Randy Gear last February over the use of the words "educate" vs. "inform." I also saw her words as a slam to our African-American community, which I had refrained from discussing until now. Randy Gear is a role model; an individual that African-Americans can look up to.

Well, Ms. Romak, you assassinated yourself that fateful night. When one individual puts self above others (as you did), it's time for voters to send that person a clear and resounding message.

I have searched city-wide for the serious issues that supposedly make up Ms. Romak's platform. I have spoken to over 300 residents of Romulus, and no one has an actual clue as to what her issues are, nor does anyone know what her platform is – other than "wanting to be the mayor." I viewed Ms. Romak's Web site ([www.romak2005.com](http://www.romak2005.com)), and still have no clue as to what her serious issues are. There are many pictures of her, and a lot of information about her past exploits over the well issue of 10 years ago. Again, no clue as to what her current platform is.

Ms. Romak's Web site contains the following text:

#### "HONESTY – TRUST – UNITY"

"Endorsed by labor for the past ten years as [a] City Council [member by the] UAW, AFL-CIO, AFSCME, Detroit Builders Trades, Michigan Teamsters, [and the] Romulus Democratic Club."

That does *not* mean that the UAW and Romulus Democratic Club have endorsed Ms. Romak for Mayor. I called the UAW, and it appears that their support is for our current mayor, Alan Lambert. The Romulus Democratic Club, of which I'm a member, has not endorsed her for mayor, either.

It seems to me that Honesty and Trust are out the window.

I have read Ms. Romak's mailings to the residents of Romulus.

"Debbie Romak is ready to get Romulus moving again by: improving our quality of life and improving City services, making City government work for you, [and] creating a prescription drug program to help our seniors and families."

Are these her serious issues, her platform?

Our city government already works for us.

How does one improve our quality of life and improve City services? This is a general statement that sounds good, but there is no substance, no clear plan on how to achieve it.

And how about her claim of "creating a prescription drug program to help our seniors and families"? In reality, she is probably talking about the new Federal prescription program for our seniors. The Romulus Senior Center recently had a presentation on this new program, which offers relief to those who have been paying for their medication. Now, I ask you, how can a city councilwoman create a prescription drug program at the Federal level? Duh!!! I can just visualize her calling President Bush daily to hammer out an agreement.

I have not seen anything in Ms. Romak's platform indicating one major step toward building a better community – except for the new recreation center, which she tried to *discredit* when she was interviewed by a reporter for *The Romulus Roman*. I quote: "We have some good things going on here, and the recreation center is one of them. We used TIFA (Tax Increment Finance Authority) funds for the center, but everyone on the council was so happy to see that we could have the center that they didn't ask about ongoing expenses – where is that money going to come from for staffing, or for maintenance? We can't necessarily use TIFA dollars for that purpose."

Unfortunately, Ms. Romak tends to put her foot in her mouth on a regular basis lately, in a last-ditch effort to make herself look good. As a member of the Council, she knows full well how the recreation program will meet daily expenses. Just like in all the other communities around us, *membership fees and*

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## LARRY D. MOORE

FOR

## TREASURER



- \* QUALIFIED
- \* DEDICATED
- \* EXPERIENCED

**"MOORE" FOR YOUR MONEY**

Paid for by the committee to elect Larry D. Moore for Treasurer



## Niema WHITE

for Romulus  
CITY COUNCIL

- ☒ Experienced
- ☒ Dedicated
- ☒ Trustworthy

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Niema White

## The Romulus News

P.O. Box 74038 • Romulus, MI 48174-0038

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Editor

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Re-elect ★★★★★  
**LeRoy D. Burcroff**  
 Romulus City Council

- Integrity
- Proven Leadership
- Qualified and Experienced
- Lifelong Resident
- Committed to Serving the Community

It would be a privilege to continue to serve on our City Council. I will do my best to represent you fairly and honestly.

Your vote is important, and I sincerely ask for your support.

Please visit my website:

**[www.councilmanburcroff.com](http://www.councilmanburcroff.com)**

LeRoy Burcroff  
 Councilman, City of Romulus

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Leroy Burcroff



## Guest Commentary

### Is Romulus On The Move? You Bet It Is!

*By Romulus Mayor Alan R. Lambert*

During the past four years, I have had the distinct honor and privilege to serve you as the Mayor of Romulus. My administration has made a positive impact in our community that will last for generations to come, and our improvements will become a catalyst for more change and growth.

I came into office with a list of promises that I made during the last election. Many said they could never be accomplished, but they have been. The promises I made to the residents of this great city have become promises kept.

We have an incredible new senior center ready to open its doors in just a few short weeks; we have a new recreation center that will be completed by fall of 2006; and we are vigorously working towards opening the doors to a casino and racetrack in the near future.

I am not saying that the road to all of the improvements in our community has been easy, but I have and will continue to fight to make our city better each day.

In recent years, I went to Lansing to fight to keep an airport parking tax that was being taken away from our community by the Michigan legislature. While at our state capital, I fought not only to keep the tax, but also to raise it to \$1.5 million for our city.

I went to Washington, D.C., and testified before the U.S. Congress in order to bring a casino to Romulus on behalf of the will of the people. I stood in front of our elected leaders, and I told them of the tax burden faced by the residents in our city, and how bringing a

casino to Romulus could make a world of difference in our community.

I look forward to bringing a world-class casino to Romulus. This development will create thousands of jobs and millions of dollars in revenue for the City of Romulus and our schools. Another large undertaking is the Michigan Downs racetrack that is coming to our city. These new developments will provide the opportunity for a much-needed tax reduction for our residents. I will also continue to work with major retail developers to bring quality shopping to Romulus. During the next four years, I will continue to keep the undeniable momentum and growth of Romulus moving in the right direction.

I believe that my public-safety service has allowed me to better serve this city as your mayor. One of my most important duties is to keep every resident in this community safe and out of harm's way – something I have done for more than 18 years in Romulus. This administration has led the community through the Blackout of 2003 and, most recently, the EQ explosion. Our emergency team performed excellent work in keeping our community safe. We will continue our commitment to public safety.

Each day, as I walk through the doors of City Hall, I am reminded of the incredible responsibility and trust that the residents of this community have given me. I make a promise to you that I will continue to fight to improve the quality of life for you, your families, and the future of Romulus.

Thank you for your support. □

## STEVEN J. LEWKOWICZ

1st time elect – "Even-Steven"

### Candidate for Romulus City Council

◆ INDEPENDENT CANDIDATE ◆ LIFETIME RESIDENT ◆

◆ ROMULUS HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE 1984 ◆

(continued education in Manufacturing at Henry Ford Community College)

◆ 20 YEARS AS TECHNICIAN AND MANUFACTURER ◆

As your city's new council member, Lewkowicz:

- will investigate and stop all unnecessary City budget spending.
- will always challenge tax issues and introduce tax reform for Homeowners and Corporations.
- will conduct City business and agreements in a proper and open manner before the public.
- will work to improve City policies within City Hall and Municipality functions, and demand enforcement thereof.
- will better review all City projects according to ordinances and land zoning, providing direct notice to neighborhoods of proposed changes.



I am looking forward to serving the City in good faith as a new, 1st-time City Council Member. Thank you for your consideration and support. Please be sure to cast your vote **Tuesday, November 8, 2005.**

**LEWKOWICZ for CITY COUNCIL**

Paid for by: "friends to elect Steven J. Lewkowicz"

### AFSCME Members Attend Convention

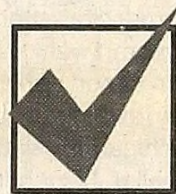
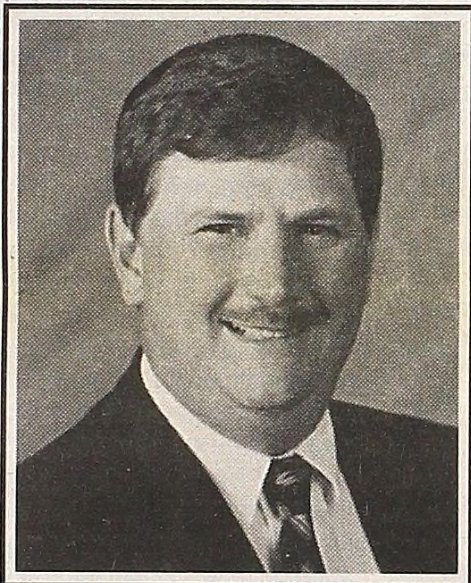
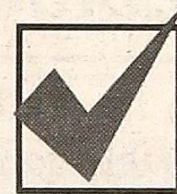


Romulus Community Schools employee Alice Clubb (left), chief steward of Local 64, and Local 64 president Kim Wells (right) enjoyed talking with Albert Garrett, Michigan vice-president of AFSCME International, at a recent statewide convention. Garrett said that AFSCME – now the largest AFL-CIO affiliate – will continue to protect the rights of working people and their families, and strengthen the union movement in the future.



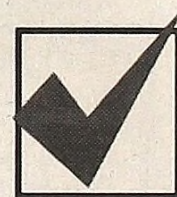
# **RE-ELECT TO THE ROMULUS CITY COUNCIL**

**LeROY D.  
BURCROFF**



**WILLIAM A.  
CROVA**

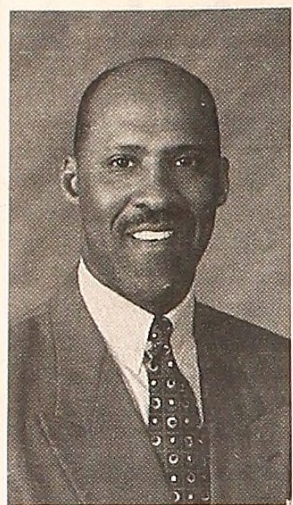
**MICHAEL A.  
PRYBYLA**



## **Working Together for a Better Romulus**

Paid by: Committee to Elect LeRoy D. Burcroff • Committee to Elect William Crova for Council • Friends of the Mike Prybyla Committee





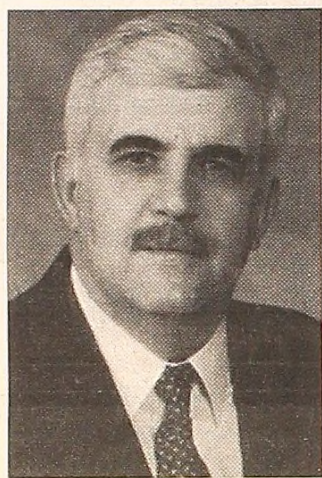
## Re-elect RANDOLPH GEAR

— Romulus City Council —

**Let's Work Together  
for Continued Progress**

**Vote November 8th**

Paid for by the Committee to Re-elect Randolph Gear



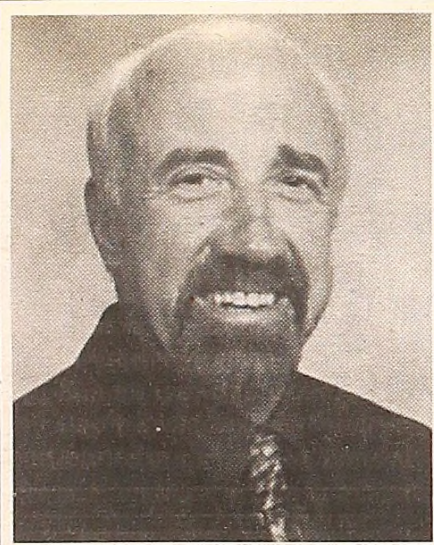
**Remember to Vote  
Tuesday, November 8th**

**Re-elect Bill  
WADSWORTH**  
to  
**ROMULUS CITY COUNCIL**

**Serving with Honor and  
Integrity for 22 Years**

Paid for by the Committee to Elect William Wadsworth

**P.S. Adopt a Pet!**



**Elect  
Harry  
CROUT**  
**Romulus  
City Council**

I and my wife Sandy have walked the whole city because I wanted to meet all the residents of Romulus, and it took 4-1/2 months to do. I tried to make it to every house, and if you weren't home, I put a note on my literature: "Sorry I missed you, Harry." I wanted to hear about your concerns and introduce myself. I didn't want to put a stamp on my literature and mail it to you. That's the easy way out. If I'm elected and you have any problems, I will come to your home and we'll work on them together.

Being on council, it is your job to work and serve the people of Romulus. I won't forget that I work for the people.

I want to thank my wife for being by my side. Besides being my wife, she's my best friend.

Thank you for your consideration.

*Harry*

Paid for by Harry Crout for City Council

## Letters to the Editor

*continued from page 2*

user fees will pay for everything that needs to be taken care of. This is a solid business approach. For Ms. Romak to be so out of touch with reality, it makes me wonder about her *credibility*.

Ms. Romak's "Letter to the Editor" continued: "Personally, I wonder if [Todd Hauter] picked up [his previous letters to the editor] when he was seen at a local restaurant at lunches with the mayor, his secretary, and a recently retired police officer."

Gee, that is so funny! Unlike those e-mails that probably fly between Romulus and Naples, Florida — *I write my own letters*. As a citizen of this community, I have the right to eat where I want and when I want. It just so happened that the mayor, his secretary, and former police officer Tom Ellis saw me in the restaurant that day, and I was invited to join them for lunch.

At a recent "Meet the Candidates" night, Ms. Romak had her life history laid out on a table, with all her awards and stuff from the injection-well issue. Yet, there was no substance on what her platform is, other than: "I want to be the mayor."

You have to understand one thing: I'm an *educated* individual, and I'm just *informing* the residents of Romulus about Ms. Romak's lack of serious issues and her lack of *unity*. She's trying to use deception to further her political ambition by dividing our community, is how I see it.

Again, referring to her letter in *The Romulus News*: "As far as I am aware, this is still the United States of America. And, being a citizen of this country, not only I, but *any* person, has the right to seek any office in any election. I was never taught that, being a woman or a city councilperson, I would then be disqualified."

Ms. Romak does have the right, as a woman and a councilwoman, to run for election; *any* adult citizen has that right. But, from my personal viewpoint, she lacks the needed qualifications to be an effective mayor for our community. In the past, we had a great woman mayor, Beverly McAnally, who did a wonderful job of running our city. Ms. Romak's spin on what I mentioned in my previous letters is a bit dramatized. Her statement — "I was never taught that, being a woman or a city councilperson, I would then be disqualified" — seems like an attempt to inflame the female residents and get them to vote for her. But, the residents of Romulus can clearly see the correct path that our city should take, and it does not include having her at the helm.

It's Ms. Romak's attitude toward others, putting herself above everyone else, that makes her unfit to lead. Where are all her political friends from the old well issue? They should have been

standing by her side, helping in every way. The truth of the matter is this: old achievements are history; Ms. Romak has not done anything recent to warrant their support, and they sense this. After all, why be associated with any individual who stands no chance, and be dragged down with that person?

I remember watching a Clint Eastwood movie that made a statement which applies to Ms. Romak, as well:

"You're a legend in your own mind."

Todd Hauter, USN (Retired)

Romulus

## Hauter Letter Addressed

To the smart citizens of Romulus:

I don't normally write letters such as this. But, now that Todd Hauter has called me out [in his October 21, 2005 "Letter to the Editor"], I thought it time to let you all know that not all Veterans are as ignorant as he seems to be.

I am a veteran of the United States Navy, as well, and my husband is a Marine Corps veteran.

First off, Todd: How dare you call on all Romulus Veterans to vote your way — like it's the "right" way? For one thing, whether you are a Veteran or not, I believe that all Romulus citizens are capable of making up their own minds on who to vote for based on the merits of each candidate, and we don't need your telling us which way to vote. (I only hope that you never had your own command in the Navy — and, if you did, it's best for the Navy that you're not there anymore.)

As far as your name-calling of Councilwoman Debbie Romak and Councilman Charles Miller is concerned, that was very, very childish and improper. (Actually, I believe it's called libel.) All the mudslinging going on with this campaign is ridiculous! I feel like I'm living in a town of "he said, she said," and that is bad, since this is being done by adults. What does this show the children of the town? How about going by one's reputation and proven record?

When some of you read my name at the bottom of this letter, you'll say, "Oh, no wonder! She's biased!" But, for anyone who knows me (I've been here my whole life, with the exception of 20 years that I spent away with the Navy, but I still kept my Romulus residency while gone), I am about as honest and fair as they come. I was not born a Miller, and I don't have to like or trust any of my in-laws; I'm not married to them. But I do; they are all very likable people. They don't lie and they tell you like it is — whether you like it or not. I call that honesty — a quality that I hold in very high regard (although it's quite rare these days, especially in politics). I think it's what we deserve in City, State, and Federal politics, but rarely ever get. Would you prefer a "yes" person, or an honest one, representing our town?

*continued on page 7*





# RE-ELECT Mayor Alan Lambert



*THE WORKING PEOPLE'S CHOICE*



*Mayor Alan R. Lambert is the One and Only Candidate  
Endorsed for Mayor by the Following:*

## UNIONS & ORGANIZATIONS:

UAW Region 1A

Michigan Teamsters Drive Council

Metropolitan Detroit AFL-CIO

Greater Detroit Building & Construction  
Trades Council

Police Officers Association of Michigan (POAM)

Romulus Police Officers Association (RPOA)

Detroit Metropolitan Airport Firefighters Local 741

A.F.S.C.M.E. Council 25 Local 1917

Transport Workers Local 521

Romulus Athletic Club (Romulus Flyers)

Romulus Democratic Club

A.F.S.C.M.E. Local 64

(Romulus Community Schools Employees)

Heritage Newspapers

(The News-Herald Newspaper)

## PUBLIC OFFICIALS:

U.S. Congressman John Dingell

U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow

Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano

Wayne County Sheriff Warren Evans

Wayne County Clerk Cathy Garrett

Wayne County Commissioner Edward Boike

Former Governor James Blanchard

City Clerk Linda Choate

Mayor Pro Tem Randolph Gear

Councilman LeRoy Burcroff

Councilman William Wadsworth

★ **Proven Leadership. Integrity. Vision.** ★

If you have any questions, please contact our campaign headquarters at (734) 941-2005

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Alan Lambert, 38475 Westvale, Romulus, MI 48174



## Ed "Butch" BUCZKOWSKI

### "A Person for the People"

- Ed is a resident and a longtime Romulus business owner.
- Ed will address the concerns of all residents of Romulus!
- Ed cares about our community, and he will work to earn your trust!
- Ed is prepared to serve on your behalf to make this a safer and more progressive community!
- Ed is currently a member of the 150 Sound Abatement Program, and he works on your behalf!
- Ed served as a Zoning Board of Appeals member!
- Ed is past Commodore of the Moslem Shrine Yacht Club.



**Ed "Butch" Buczkowski**  
**Romulus City Council**  
**INDEPENDENT**

**Ed "Butch" Buczkowski Cares About Romulus  
and He Cares About You!**

**You Can Make a Difference • Make Your Vote Count**

**ELECT ED BUCZKOWSKI**

Paid for by Committee to Elect Ed Buczkowski

## Letters to the Editor

*continued from page 5*

I believe in people who fight for us and for the betterment of the community. I also believe that Councilman Miller was fighting for us when he resigned, but had so many people urge him not to quit fighting for us that he came back. But, I don't believe he was on his knees. (That's a little distortion of the facts, there, Todd.)

Councilman Miller is far from being a "flake"; he's a very intelligent and knowledgeable man. He's proven that he'll fight for us, and I'm proud to say that he's my father-in-law. He will take on any problem and help you to the best of his abilities. He leaves his phone number on just about everything so that he is reachable when you do have a problem. He listens, and he cares. So, Todd, I think that if you want to see a "flake," perhaps you should check out some of your own mirrors.

As far as smoke-screens are concerned – you should try not hiding behind one when you're watching the many council meetings you say you watch; then you would have seen the more-than-a-few times that Mayor Alan Lambert's snotty little attitude came out when he was talking down to a few of the citizens. I have seen it, but thought maybe he was having a bad day; however, my mother informed me that it wasn't the first time. So, when you point out Councilwoman Romak's attitudes, don't forget about Mayor Lambert's. Fair is fair.

During my service time away from Romulus, I've seen a lot of different cities – big, small, clean, dirty ... all types – and *never* in all my travels did I ever see a city so plastered with a mayor's face and name as I have seen in Romulus this election. It's ridiculous, to say the least. Mayor Lambert's signs were up long before the time line everyone else followed. One thing I know for a fact is that they are everywhere, and they are huge. I'm not saying how he should spend his money – that's his business – but, frankly, I think it's a bit of overkill on his part. Makes me wonder what he is trying to overcompensate for. And, did that many trees really have to die just for his peace of mind?

I recently went to a "Meet the Candidates" program to ask questions. I was a few minutes late, but I caught most of the speeches ... and, what did I find? *No* Mayor Lambert. Come to find out, he wiggled his way first so he could leave. There were a few questions for him after the speeches, but they had to be answered by the current council members (including Mrs. Romak). It made me wonder what was more important than meeting the community that he's supposed to be serving. I could understand if it was a family emergency or funeral or something like that, but to leave your community for a dinner! It

was very disturbing to know that Mayor Lambert would turn his back on the community he is supposed to be serving for some dinner; that is very unsatisfactory. Is he so sure that the votes are in his favor that he doesn't have to listen to us anymore?

Well, I did get the chance to hear and meet Mrs. Romak in person, and she seems to be a very personable and caring person. (She must be; she cared enough to stay and listen to the people she wants to serve.)

So, I ask the intelligent voters of Romulus: "Who cares more about us? The mayor who leaves us to go to dinner, or the mayoral hopeful who stays to talk and listen to us? The councilman who fights for us, or the one who goes with the majority?"

I will be glad when all this is over, and people stop their smear campaigns against my father-in-law. As I was always taught: If you can't say anything nice, then don't say nothing at all.

Whatever happened to campaign promises, and what candidates want to do for the community? It's changed to: What kind of mud can we sling at them now? Well, let's grow up, folks. This isn't junior high.

Elva Miller (formerly Elva Sharrow, RHS Class of '79, always a Romulus citizen and resident – just in case you wanted to question my authenticity, too, Todd), U.S.N. veteran

## "Friends" Criticized

To the Editor:

For 41+ years, I have been a sister-in-law to Chuck Miller – not "Chuckie," as he has been called in the literature recently mailed to the absentee voters of Romulus – so I know him very well. However, the people who sent that letter (which was signed "Friends of Romulus") must *not* know the man, because he is not a clown – although he does have a sense of humor, which is a nice thing to have when you are being threatened by the higher-ups in Romulus government.

Why don't you people let yourselves be known? Or are you the puppets of the person who has done the threatening? You "Friends of Romulus" are trying to make fun of and defame Chuck Miller's name. Are you afraid that the person you are backing – whether it be councilman or mayor – is going to lose his/her political race, and the only way you have of compensating is to try and ruin Chuck Miller's name and chances of being re-elected?

Chuck Miller is his own man. I can assure you that he needs no one to tell him what to do. All anyone has to do is have a conversation with him, and they will find out that he is a very intelligent man who knows the ups-and-downs and ins-and-outs of the councilman position.

*continued on page 9*



**New Vision, New Ideas!**

*Elect*  
**John R.  
BARDEN**  
*for*  
**CITY COUNCIL**

**Committed  
Qualified  
Determined**

## ENDORSED AND SUPPORTED BY

- Mayor Alan Lambert, City of Romulus •
- Tom Ellis, Former Liaison to Mayor Lambert •
- Robert A. Ficano, Wayne County Executive •
- April Frayer, President, Romulus Board of Education •
- UAW-CAP Region 1A, Jimmy Settles, Director •
- Detroit Metro Airport Firefighters Association Local 741 •
- Metropolitan Detroit AFL-CIO, Donald Boggs, President •
- Herb Buckley, Romulus Director of Parks and Recreation •
- Betty Lenossi, Romulus Board of Education •
- Cheryl Buckley, Romulus Board of Education •
- Tom Kuderik, Romulus Board of Education •
- Dr. Terrel M. LeCesne, Former Asst. Supt., Romulus Schools •

Paid for by the Committee to Elect John R. Barden



# DEBBIE ROMAK FOR MAYOR

## DEBBIE ROMAK IS READY TO:

- Improve our quality of life
- Improve City services by making them more cost effective
- Make City government work for you, not against you
- Create a prescription drug program to help our seniors and families, saving you 40% to 50% in most cases
- Keep police officers assigned to our streets/neighborhoods, not City Hall
- Address HIGH PROPERTY TAXES NOW – homeowners can't afford to wait for casinos/racetracks (City – 9.76 mills; Schools – 37.0 mills)
- Do more than revitalize downtown with streetlights/banners
- Work directly with business owners so they remain open, grow, and prosper
- Revitalize one block at a time
- Make the new recreation facility affordable/accessible to all
- Aggressively approach retail by using a Community ID program
- Enforce ordinances fairly, not selectively
- Create a leadership academy – today's youth, tomorrow's leaders
- Address millions of dollars in budget shortfalls
- Bring diversity as a way of doing City business every day (appointments, boards, commissions)
- Create Web links through our City Web site, uniting all civic groups/organizations
- Promote and encourage citizen participation in decision-making throughout the *entire* process
- DO THE JOB and DO IT BETTER with proven, recognized, awarded LEADERSHIP

## WHO IS COUNCILWOMAN ROMAK?

- Married to Ted Romak for 31 years
- Mother of two children, Ryan and Lauren
- Romulus Councilwoman for 10 years
- Endorsed by Organized Labor for 10 years (including Metropolitan AFL-CIO, Michigan Teamsters Joint Council 43, Greater Detroit Building and Construction Trades, United Steelworkers of America District 2, UAW, AFSCME, Local 324 Engineers and Building Trades)
- Winner of the 2001 Michigan Environmental Council Petoskey Prize for Protecting Michigan's Environment
- Winner of the Ecology Center of Ann Arbor Award for Outstanding Grassroots Leadership
- Winner of the Southeast Michigan Coalition for Occupational Safety and Health Award for efforts to protect working men and women in the workplace

## DEBBIE ROMAK'S RECORD OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- Voted against the recent increase for elected officials
- Voted to help keep GM jobs in Romulus
- A lifetime of defending working people
- Committed to protecting the environment and creating jobs
- Insisted your voice be heard on gambling
- Only candidate whose 2001 re-election platform suggested utilizing DDA and TIFA dollars for senior center/recreation facility – \$\$\$ directly benefiting our youth, families, and seniors
- Voted to create a full-time fire department
- Demanded lower response times
- Voted to create Tool-and-Die Recovery Zone
- Voted to help secure Federal dollars for our food banks and pantries
- Voted NO on the budget, which neglected to address the millions in shortfalls
- 10 years on the Romulus City Council
- 4 years as Chairwoman Pro-Tem
- Environmental Liaison to City Council
- Congressional staffer to former Congresswoman Lynn Rivers
- Member of Master Plan Steering Committee
- City Council representative on Planning Commission

**"As mayor, I will  
put an end to  
big talk and  
empty promises.  
Let's get  
Romulus  
moving again.  
Let's Team Up for  
Tomorrow!"**

**Councilwoman  
Debbie Romak**

Join the campaign by visiting  
Debbie's campaign headquarters at  
37573 Huron River Drive,  
or Call Debbie at 734-941-5947



**ELECT DEBBIE ROMAK MAYOR ON NOVEMBER 8th**



36628 Goddard  
Romulus, Michigan 48174  
734-229-0005



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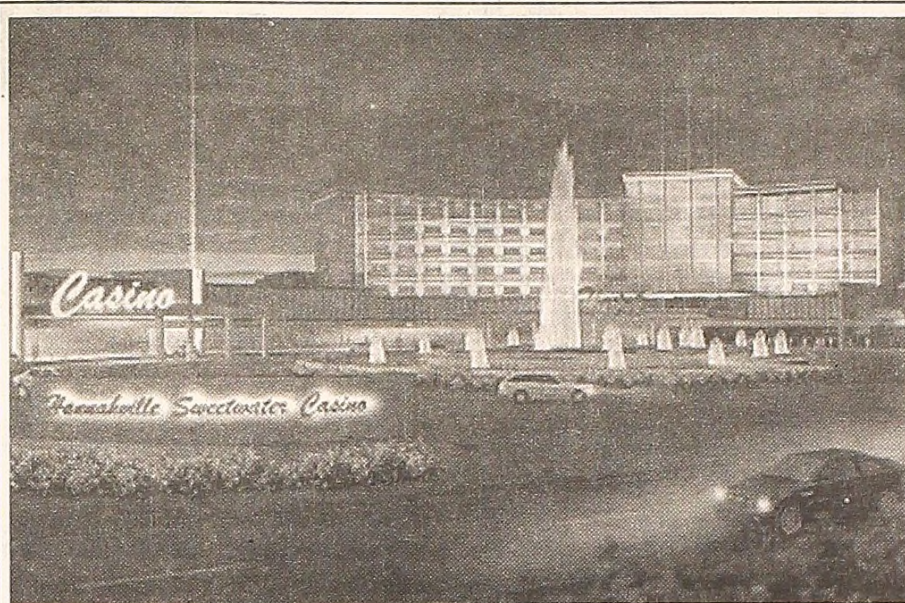
— Full Service —  
Barber Shop & Hair Salon

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Romulus, MI 48174

**941-0123**

## Hannahville Tribe Announces Plans To Pursue Casino



Artist's rendering of the Hannahville Indian Community's planned hotel/casino development in Romulus.

## Letters to the Editor

*continued from page 7*

You "Friends of Romulus" — were you involved in or a part of the reason behind Chuck Miller resigning his position and then returning? It is a God-given right to change your mind, especially if, by doing so, it will help the citizens of Romulus. Chuck Miller was only trying to keep those in power from turning off someone's water the first time he/she didn't pay his/her water bill — an action that would be very hard on a lot of people, including senior citizens. Are you aware that, if the water to your house is turned off, you will have to leave because your house will be considered uninhabitable? Also, if the water to your house is turned off, there will be a \$200 reconnection fee.

Another thing that people need to know about Chuck Miller is that he does not keep the \$500 a month he is paid for his city council service. He gives the money to various charities and fundraising efforts that are going on in Romulus. If you see him "out and about," ask him about where the money goes if you are curious; he will tell you.

You, as citizens of Romulus, need to find out the facts and vote for the best man or woman for all positions. You will not go wrong by re-electing Chuck Miller for Councilman of Romulus. While you are at it, unless you are thrilled with the present mayor, why don't you vote for an all-new mayor? Vote for Debbie Romak!

Aretta Langel  
Pikeville, KY

## Voters Urged To Get Facts

To the Editor:

As November 8 approaches, I hope that Romulus voters get all the facts before going to the polls. Just because something has been claimed, that does not make it true.

Before November 2001, *The Detroit News* had an article about Romulus, and it basically stated that this city would be an up-and-coming city over the next several years because of the vacant land ready to be developed. Several of

the developments were in progress longer than four years ago. The full-time fire department was developed longer than four years ago. We don't hear why Visteon decided not to come here, but went to Van Buren. We don't hear why the big sports complex decided not to come here, but went to Huron as part of the Pinnacle project. It wasn't that Romulus wasn't considered, it wasn't because the land was not available, and it wasn't that both projects were lured away by Van Buren and Huron. They both came here first. So, instead, we get horse racing and casinos.

As an endorser of an extended recreation program, which can only enhance the city's quality of life, I question how we can afford to subsidize the new rec center that the City has initiated. Federal funds have been available for years for construction, but those funds can't operate the building; that has to be done with tax dollars, donations, foundations, etc. Most of the communities around us are subsidized by their city budgets, and are having to cut programs and raise user fees. What will happen when this building — which should be operational 7 days a week, 12 to 15 hours a day — opens? Will there be monies to operate as needed? If not, and you bring in a management firm, will the residents be able to afford to enjoy this building? Management firms must make money, which is how they get paid. Check the users' fees of other community centers that are subsidized by the taxpayers, and guess what our residents will have to pay.

My last question concerns the new senior center, toward which the City has committed many years of Community Development Block Grant monies. What happens if our President gets his way before he leaves office, and does away with the CDBG program?

Before you vote, make sure you have all the facts, and don't believe everything that is said. I know I learned the hard way.

Debbie Dick  
Romulus □

During a press conference held on October 20, the Hannahville Indian Community formally announced its plans to pursue a casino in the City of Romulus.

According to Hannahville Indian Community chairman Ken Meshigaud, the development — to be located on 24.6 acres near the intersection of Wick and Vining roads — would feature a 200-room hotel, several restaurants, and retail space, as well as a world-class casino with approximately 2,400 slots and 90 tables.

Meshigaud said he would be proud to bring the project to Romulus.

"While our tribe is now based in Michigan's Upper Peninsula, our ancestors used to live in this area until we were forced to leave by the Federal Government in the 1800s," he said. "It is good to return to our original home, especially with this important project."

"We believe that this is the perfect location for our development," Meshigaud continued. "We are close to a major airport and a major highway. ... [And] having the [Michigan Downs] racetrack across the street only adds to the appeal of this location."

"It is a proven fact that having multiple gaming options for customers will only increase the desire for people to come to Romulus," he added.

Mayor Alan R. Lambert was also on hand to discuss the Hannahville tribe's project, and what it would mean to Romulus if it comes to fruition. He cited a number of statistics related to jobs and revenue that should result from the project.

- During the building phase, more than 3,000 construction-related jobs would be created.
- After completion, about 3,300 permanent jobs would be created either at the facility or as a result of the development.

- The project should draw more than five million visitors each year, and generate over \$5 million in annual sales tax revenue as well as additional income and property taxes.

"Combining this casino and Michigan Downs, we will provide an anchor development that will be very attractive to visitors," said Lambert.

Lambert also addressed the secondary effects that should result from the development, noting that the casino could become the centerpiece of a proposed mega-development that would also include a convention center, retail mall, and racetrack all in one location. As the first such development near an airport, it should unleash Detroit Metro Airport's potential as a national tourist destination.

The planned mega development should spur other growth, as well.

Although some residents in the subdivision nearest the proposed casino and racetrack developments have expressed concern that their neighborhoods will be disrupted, Lambert believes that any negative impact will be minimal. Because of the projects' immediate proximity to I-94 and Metro Airport, there should be little "overflow" into the residential areas.

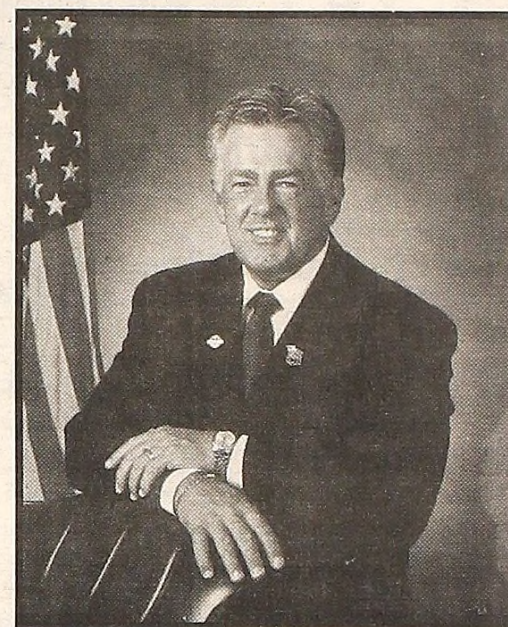
Lambert also believes that the Romulus-project would have little impact on Detroit casinos, since some studies have shown that the Detroit casino market is not yet saturated, and many of the Romulus casino's customers would come from a population base (i.e., Metro Airport customers and residents from Western Wayne and Washtenaw counties) that is not visiting the casinos in Detroit.

Although Lambert and Meshigaud are committed to making the casino a reality, the Hannahville chairman reminded everyone that the process will be a lengthy one. □





# RE-ELECT Mayor Alan Lambert



*Leadership You Can Count on in a Crisis*



## One Good Term...

- **New State-of-the-Art Recreation Center**  
Scheduled to open Fall of 2006, the center will be completed with no tax increase for residents.
- **New Senior Center**  
Scheduled to open later this year, also with no tax increase to residents.
- **Doubled the size of the full-time Fire Department and improved to 24/7 operation**
- **Operation Fresh Look**  
Aggressive Demolition Program
- **Downtown Revitalization**
- **Quality Citywide Development**
- **Quality Subdivisions and New Homes**
- **Four Consecutive Balanced Budgets**
- **No Layoffs or Cuts in City Services**
- **Open Door Policy with Residents**
- **Historical Park Improvements**
- **Effective Emergency Management Plan**  
Under Mayor Lambert's leadership, we have dealt with two crisis situations — the multi-state blackout of 2003 and the recent EQ chemical plant explosion. Both were responded to in an organized and effective manner.

## Deserves Another..

### *Planning for the Future:*

- **CASINO**  
Continue our plans to bring a world-class casino that will create thousands of jobs and millions of dollars in revenue to the City of Romulus and the schools, which will provide the opportunity for reducing property taxes for our residents.
- **RACETRACK**  
Working to make Michigan Downs a reality for the residents of Romulus.
- **NEW RETAIL DEVELOPMENT**  
Continue to work with major retail developers to bring quality shopping to Romulus.
- **NEW FIRE DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS**  
Will be built on donated property with no additional tax dollars.
- **NEW ANIMAL SHELTER**  
Continue to work with Councilman Wadsworth to build a new animal shelter.
- **ADD NEW PARKS AND IMPROVE THE EXISTING ONES**

★ **Proven Leadership. Integrity. Vision.** ★

If you have any questions, please contact our campaign headquarters at (734) 941-2005

*Paid for by the Committee to Elect Alan Lambert, 38475 Westvale, Romulus, MI 48174*



## Alan R. Lambert

*continued from page 1*

residents. To that end, I will continue to work to bring new revenues into the community. The racetrack and casino developments will give us the opportunity we need for reducing taxes.

### Question #2

The Recreation Department is set to undergo great changes in the near future. The City is constructing a new, 88,000-square-foot recreational facility that will provide our residents with new and improved recreational opportunities and services.

### Question #3

**The new Senior Center** – The new senior center, scheduled to open soon, will be the kind of state-of-the-art facility that our seniors have always needed. The old building was in disrepair. By utilizing Community Development Block Grants and Downtown Development Authority funding, we were able to build a suitable facility for our seniors at no increase in cost to the taxpayers. Our new senior center will provide our older generation with a much-needed new facility.

**The new Recreation Center** – Growing up as a kid in Romulus, I always recognized the need for our young people to have a place to go to have fun. I am very proud that we are building this new facility for our residents at no increase in taxes. This state-of-the-art facility is something that will provide new quality recreational opportunities and several new jobs for the residents of Romulus.

**Horse racing** – In December of 2003, a special election was held that asked the question of whether or not Romulus wanted a racetrack within its boundaries. The voters overwhelmingly supported the measure; therefore, it is my duty to work on behalf of the will of the people.

Since then, Magna has received a license to operate a racetrack in Romulus from the State of Michigan. This project will provide new revenues to help us begin a plan to lower taxes. The racetrack will bring thousands of new jobs to Romulus, creating new employment opportunities for our residents.

**Casino gaming** – Casino gaming is an issue that was also brought before the people in December of 2003. Our residents voted in favor of a casino development for Romulus. We have been working very hard to bring this new development to our city. The casino development will create 3,300 new job

opportunities and bring new revenues to the City of Romulus. The casino and racetrack developments are located in an area of the city that is close to Interstate 94. These projects will not affect the tranquility of our neighborhoods. In addition, this kind of development will help us begin a plan to lower property taxes.

### Question #4

It is very important to bring new retail shopping opportunities to our community. Currently, we are actively communicating with major mall developers to bring quality shopping to Romulus. The casino and racetrack developments will help us in this endeavor.

Our downtown revitalization has helped us to bring a grocery store and several new businesses to our charming downtown district. Several city improvements like streetlighting and streetscaping, historical park improvements, and the new central business district overlay will help us continue to improve our downtown area.

People used to say you couldn't even buy a pair of socks in Romulus. No longer true. New retail development includes Family Dollar, Bravada Shopping Plaza (Van Born and Wayne), and Gateway Crossing (Ecorse and Hannan), and more retail development is on the way.

As new quality homes and neighborhoods are built in Romulus (the rooftop factor), we are increasing the likelihood of attracting new quality retail to our area.

Any type of adult entertainment should be discouraged from coming into our city.

### Question #5

Overall, City of Romulus policies and practices are very good. Our community is currently experiencing growth in residential and commercial development as well as population – a solid indicator we are moving Romulus in the right direction. I will continue to work with all elected officials to improve our community through quality services and quality projects.

### Question #6

My experience has greatly influenced my ability to serve the residents well. I have served as mayor over the past four years and, during that time, we have made many great strides in the City of Romulus. Prior to becoming mayor, I was a Romulus Police Officer for 14 years, a city councilman for seven years, and a member of the Romulus School Board for three years. My strong leadership and public-safety skills have prepared me to handle crises, like those of the recent EQ explosion and the Blackout of 2003.

I am seeking re-election to continue to help move Romulus forward in a positive direction and improve the quality of life for our residents. □

## Debbie Romak

*continued from page 1*

foremost on my agenda. Our community has been hit very hard on both.

High property taxes have always been a serious matter with our city. Over the past five years, we have built more than 653 new homes. But just as quickly as new residents make Romulus their home, established families and even our newcomers are being forced to leave because of high taxes. Families can not afford to wait for casinos and racetracks to become a reality to receive a reduction in taxes. While the City's operating millage is 9.76, the School District's is 37. I believe the City and Schools must work together on this issue. If this city is not successful in addressing and maintaining our residential development growth by keeping in line with other adjacent communities tax-wise, it will eventually affect our school district, as well.

It greatly concerns me that our once-working families are quickly becoming non-working families. Michigan's unemployment rate is the highest in our country. Romulus is already one of the most abated tax communities in southeast Michigan, yet, one by one, we are still losing needed jobs. I will work to keep marketing our vacant land. Many other cities are built out already; therefore, it makes Romulus more marketable to businesses. I will work closely with our state legislators on any and all economic development plans or incentives available to entice businesses to locate in Romulus by capitalizing on the location of Metro Airport/the interstates and our willingness to do business. The entire state of Michigan is searching for businesses to create jobs. There is a lot of competition, and Romulus will continue to be an aggressive competitor for those needed jobs.

The reason these two issues are so closely related is because population growth brings commerce and jobs, the core elements of a progressive city. Without tax relief for our tightly stretched citizens, we can not make progress.

### Question #2

Most of the administrative departments will experience growth/change to keep up with the City's needs and never-ending demands. While I will strive to make Romulus a progressive city, with that progress comes greater demands for providing public services.

Communities are forced every day to do more with less resources. Statistics indicate that, for every tax dollar received, it costs a city roughly a dollar and a half to provide services. Therefore, we need to expand our Department of Public Works (DPW) to maintain new streets and two new public buildings (senior and recreation centers); to provide snow removal, grass cutting, and building maintenance; and for new parks/parks expansion. There

will also be a need for added staff to maintain and operate our new facilities. Granted, the buildings have been built using no tax dollars, but, in actuality, we will be required to use tax dollars to sustain the new buildings.

There will also be a need for more police officers and firemen if and when the new casino and racetrack become operational.

The way to do this is through creating more residential homes and the expansion of our city's commercial base, not by raising the City's tax mills. We must actively recruit new businesses and homeowners to locate in Romulus to provide us with the much-needed revenue to expand our public services because they go hand-in-hand: as our community grows, so does the demand on our city's services.

### Question #3

There is no doubt that the Senior Center is needed because of the increased needs of our seniors and the ever-growing senior population. I hope that more seniors will utilize the center upon its completion. The center brings a positive, long-term impact to our entire community. At a time of increased competition for limited Federal dollars (Block Grant funding), we must continue to inform our legislators of the true impact of the program. The Romulus City Council has pre-committed ten years of these funds to pay for the bonds used to build the Senior Center. Without those funds, our budget would not have been able to support the Senior Center. Other organizations have also relied on those same funds for assistance. I will work closely with assisting them in identifying what other grants will be available so that we may continue to revitalize one city block at a time.

The long-term impact of the recreational facility will be extremely beneficial to our youth and families as long as we can reach my goal of assuring the facility is affordable and accessible to all. My 2001 re-election platform was to utilize Tax Increment Finance Authority (TIFA) dollars in a way that would allow our families to directly benefit from them, and the Recreation Center brings endless opportunities. However, we will have to be very creative for it to hold its own financially. Even though TIFA dollars are being used to build the facility, the City and citizens will accrue costs: membership dues, usage fees, and costs to operate, maintain, and staff the center. We are, as yet, unsure how many members will be needed to sustain and support the facility, but one thing is certain: the facility must have the ability to attract not only residents, but non-residents, as well, for it to be cost-effective to the City.

The racetrack and casino are both controversial developments; that is why

*continued on page 13*

### HELP WANTED

Trained DMH staff wanted for group home in Romulus (afternoons and weekends only).

For more information,  
**CALL 734-942-1010**



# The Police Blotter

Thanks to Sergeant Bryan Cozzaglio for submitting the following summary of the Romulus Police Department's significant activity from Monday, October 17, through Sunday, October 30. (Information is in the following format: date, time, type of call, and general location.)

## Monday, October 17

- 9:32 a.m. – Felonious Assault (block of 9530 Biddle)
- 10:51 a.m. – Felonious Assault (block of 33100 Annapolis)
- 12:47 p.m. – Fraud Complaint (reported at RPD headquarters)
- 2:58 p.m. – Larceny (reported at RPD headquarters)
- 3:07 p.m. – Fight (block of 15400 Meadow)
- 3:10 p.m. – Unlawful Driving Away of an Automobile (UDAA) (block of 11500 Ozga)
- 3:37 p.m. – Harassment Complaint (reported at RPD headquarters)
- 4:49 p.m. – Missing Person (block of 8580 Wahrman)
- 5:04 p.m. – Harassment Complaint (reported at RPD headquarters)
- 5:38 p.m. – Breaking & Entering (B&E) (block of 9310 Wayne)
- 6:53 p.m. – Harassment Complaint (block of 9030 Gabriel)
- 7:54 p.m. – Family Trouble (block of 35700 Garner)
- 11:54 p.m. – Disturbance (block of 28800 Leroy)

## Tuesday, October 18

- 4:11 a.m. – Family Trouble (block of 6970 Chippewa)
- 4:12 a.m. – Robbery (block of 31400 Ecorse)
- 11:00 a.m. – Larceny (block of 6010 Panam)
- 12:04 p.m. – Threats (block of 7080 Niagara)
- 2:47 p.m. – Larceny (block of 9650 Wayne)
- 4:13 p.m. – Fight (block of 15000 Pond Way)
- 4:18 p.m. – Mental Incapacitation (block of 6850 Inkster)
- 4:28 p.m. – B&E (block of 37500 Huron River Dr.)
- 5:07 p.m. – Recovered UDAA (block of 11000 Middlebelt)
- 7:48 p.m. – Mental Incapacitation (block of 37400 Barth)
- 10:12 p.m. – Property Damage/Malicious Destruction of Property (PD/MDOP) (block of 15000 Mountain Way)
- 11:12 p.m. – Family Trouble (block of 5970 W. Maple)
- 11:37 p.m. – Robbery Alarm (block of 10700 Middlebelt)

## Wednesday, October 19

- 2:47 a.m. – Assault & Battery (A&B) (block of 5820 Middlebelt)
- 5:57 a.m. – Disturbance (block of 7410 Wayne)
- 8:13 a.m. – PD/MDOP (block of 34900 Julie)
- 8:40 a.m. – PD/MDOP (block of 36500 Bibbins)
- 9:01 a.m. – PD/MDOP (block of 34900 Julie)
- 9:07 a.m. – Recovered UDAA (block of 38400 Ecorse)
- 9:16 a.m. – Larceny (block of 28200 Heather Way)
- 9:18 a.m. – Trespassing (block of 5930 Middlebelt)
- 11:02 a.m. – PD/MDOP (block of 36500 Bibbins)
- 12:02 p.m. – Disturbance (block of 34900 Julie)
- 12:05 p.m. – Criminal Sexual Conduct (CSC) (block of 31800 Wick)
- 12:40 p.m. – Larceny (block of 28400 Highland)
- 2:00 p.m. – Larceny (block of 28900 Cullen Dr.)
- 2:08 p.m. – Missing Person (reported at RPD headquarters)
- 3:48 p.m. – Disturbance (block of 35000 Julie)
- 8:01 p.m. – UDAA (block of 5960 Turbo)
- 8:01 p.m. – Juvenile Complaint/Runaway (JC/R) (block of 5890 Georgia)
- 8:03 p.m. – Operating Under the Influence of Liquor (OUIL) (block of 29400 Eureka)
- 9:10 p.m. – OUIL (block of 9200 Middlebelt)
- 9:53 p.m. – Recovered UDAA (block of 5960 Turbo)

## Thursday, October 20

- 10:29 a.m. – Disturbance (block of 6220 Middlebelt)
- 11:22 a.m. – UDAA (reported at RPD headquarters)
- 11:26 a.m. – Fight (block of 38100 McDonald Dr.)
- 11:59 a.m. – Felonious Assault (block of 35000 Michelle)
- 12:38 p.m. – Trespassing (block of 9520 Biddle)
- 1:53 p.m. – Bad Checks (block of 30700 Beverly)
- 4:10 p.m. – Off-road Vehicle (ORV) Complaint (block of 35900 Park Pl.)
- 6:01 p.m. – Felonious Assault (block of 34700 Stewart)
- 6:59 p.m. – Fraud Complaint (block of 8500 Wickham)

- 10:14 p.m. – Larceny (block of 7950 Silo Dr.)
- 11:57 p.m. – Disturbance (block of 30600 Redwood)

## Friday, October 21

- 1:23 a.m. – Threats (block of 6960 Chippewa)
- 2:22 a.m. – B&E (block of 29800 Beverly)
- 8:14 a.m. – Miscellaneous Duties (block of 12600 Wayne)
- 1:53 p.m. – PD/MDOP (block of 6070 Colorado)
- 2:21 p.m. – UDAA (block of 36300 Eureka)
- 3:37 p.m. – PD/MDOP (block of 8660 Whitehorn)
- 4:36 p.m. – Rescue (block of 6330 Hyde Park)
- 4:40 p.m. – Harassment Complaint (block of 8230 Merriman)
- 5:33 p.m. – JC/R (block of 16200 Taft)
- 6:16 p.m. – Disturbance (block of 8000 Merriman)
- 9:54 p.m. – Disturbance (block of 35600 Garner)

## Saturday, October 22

- 2:48 a.m. – Rescue (block of 15000 Middlebelt)
- 9:40 a.m. – Family Trouble (block of 15700 Isabelle)
- 9:42 a.m. – B&E (block of 27400 Eureka)
- 9:51 a.m. – B&E (block of 28300 Heather Way)
- 10:14 a.m. – Family Trouble (block of 15700 Isabelle)
- 10:27 a.m. – Family Trouble (block of 6500 Hunt)
- 10:28 a.m. – Neighbor Trouble (block of 30500 Dru)
- 10:52 a.m. – JC/R (block of 6030 Panam)
- 1:07 p.m. – Threats (block of 11400 Whitehorn)
- 1:09 p.m. – Larceny (block of 9000 Wickham)
- 7:34 p.m. – Loud Music (block of 32200 Augusta Dr.)
- 9:01 p.m. – JC/R (block of 15000 Knoll Way)
- 9:43 p.m. – Loud Music (block of 15000 Mountain Way)
- 10:19 p.m. – Larceny (block of 11100 Harrison)

## Sunday, October 23

- 12:07 a.m. – Felonious Assault (block of 9190 Wickham)
- 12:15 a.m. – Threats (block of 5900 Esther)
- 1:12 a.m. – Rescue (block of 5930 Middlebelt)
- 1:58 a.m. – OUIL (block of 11000 Wayne)

- 3:14 a.m. – Loud Music (block of 38800 Tempe)
- 4:16 a.m. – Disturbance (block of 29300 Airport Dr.)
- 7:21 a.m. – Harassment Complaint (block of 16300 Cork Tree)
- 11:03 a.m. – B&E (block of 27400 Eureka)
- 11:20 a.m. – Felonious Assault (block of 6010 Colorado)
- 12:02 p.m. – UDAA (block of 30000 Spain)
- 1:01 p.m. – Threats (block of 6840 Middlebelt)
- 4:01 p.m. – JC/R (block of 34000 McBride)
- 5:07 p.m. – Loud Music (block of 16200 Eastwind)
- 6:11 p.m. – Threats (block of 33100 Bay Hill Dr.)
- 6:23 p.m. – B&E (block of 6010 Panam)

## Monday, October 24

- 12:26 a.m. – OUIL (block of 5800 Merriman)
- 2:04 a.m. – Family Trouble (block of 6960 Homefield)
- 6:05 a.m. – Larceny (block of 28300 Goddard)
- 7:19 a.m. – B&E (block of 27600 Hildebrandt)
- 10:22 a.m. – Rescue (block of 8480 Whitehorn)
- 10:33 a.m. – Fraud Complaint (reported at RPD headquarters)
- 10:54 a.m. – Rescue (block of 6940 Wayne)
- 11:25 a.m. – Larceny (block of 29200 Airport Dr.)
- 12:02 p.m. – Larceny (block of 8800 Wickham)
- 12:17 p.m. – PD/MDOP (block of 35900 Herman)
- 1:52 p.m. – JC/R (block of 34800 Ecorse)
- 2:22 p.m. – Recovered UDAA (block of 8710 Wickham)
- 2:31 p.m. – Family Trouble (block of 34800 Ecorse)
- 10:14 p.m. – Family Trouble (block of 15000 Mesa Way)
- 11:37 p.m. – Rescue (block of 31300 Van Born)

## Tuesday, October 25

- 1:56 a.m. – Health & Safety (block of 6700 Merriman)
- 3:11 a.m. – Loud Music (block of 6050 Airborne)
- 4:09 a.m. – Rescue (block of 5930 E. Maple)
- 5:29 a.m. – Abandoned Vehicle (block of 38400 Superior)
- 7:03 a.m. – Larceny (block of 15800 Woodmont)

continued on page 14



## Debbie Romak

*continued from page 11*

I felt it was imperative for them to go to a vote of the people, and urged a referendum vote. Typically, projects like the racetrack have their own inside security, but our police department would be responsible for handling the traffic and any off-site incidents that may occur. As its budget is already at \$10 million, the police department will have to be stretched even further to accommodate these incidents. Information provided has indicated that the City would receive breakage fees and property taxes equaling roughly \$1.5 million a year. The Michigan Downs economic data report estimates that 1,000 new jobs and 500 indirect jobs will result from Phase I construction, and 2,000 direct and indirect jobs once the project becomes complete, with roughly \$2.8 million in revenue. I am very well aware that the already established neighborhood closest to the proposed facility did not overwhelmingly approve the facility. I will remain sensitive to their concerns as the project moves forward. I am optimistic that the racetrack could be a catalyst for other future developments such as restaurants, hotels, and possibly some retail. To date, Michigan Downs is defending its track license in circuit court.

Just like the racetrack, casinos also have their own inside security, but there will be an increased burden on our City services. In all probability, additional police officers will be needed. The Hannahville Tribe had not yet applied for a land trust as of the press conference held 20 days before the election. First, you must get the land in trust, and it must be in trust for gaming purposes before a casino can be built. If, and only if, Federal approval is granted, casino operators would then have to negotiate a compact with the State. As for Romulus landing 3,300 jobs, unfortunately, it will not be any time soon, despite the appearance of the recently constructed billboard on the proposed site—at least, not soon enough for many of our non-working families. While the casino could be a catalyst for future development, generate millions of dollars in revenues for the City, provide needed jobs, and reduce property taxes, I do not think anyone knows for sure how soon this will happen. The building of the casino and racetrack could alleviate many of our concerns, but is certainly not a quick-fix or sure thing. No one is quite sure of the projected annual dollar amounts that these developments will generate because City Council has not yet been provided with them.

### Question #4

Retail shopping and a major chain grocery store are the types of development that need to be pursued. Every administration, including my opponent's, has attempted to bring retail to our city,

with no success, by simply contacting every major chain. I have learned that the National League of Cities offers seminars in marketing cities to the national retail sector based on a program called Community ID. The focus is on retail development as an economic development strategy for cities and towns of any size. We will be in attendance at those seminars, and will look towards the experts in developing a strategy for Romulus and its residents.

The types I believe should be discouraged are hazardous and chemical facilities. Romulus's risks and rates of cancer are higher than state averages. We need to focus on developments that will benefit our citizens, not hurt them.

### Question #5

Appointments to City boards have traditionally not been particularly diverse, and citizen involvement and participation has not always been actively sought. I will implement ways to integrate diversity, making it a process that is part of our everyday way of doing City business, starting with appointments to boards and commissions. Winds of change bring fresh ideas and new leadership. They also give old and new residents the opportunity to serve their community in many different ways. Our city government needs to represent our increasingly diverse community. I will promote and encourage citizen participation in decision-making throughout the *entire* process. I know, firsthand, how valuable citizens' boards are. They are indispensable to the affairs of the city; they truly make a city a community. Citizens should realize a sense of civic satisfaction as the result of their volunteer contributions. There needs to be a partnership between government and citizens, all working together to make our city, our future, and our lives better.

### Question #6

As mayor, I offer you honesty, integrity, vision, and real hope for a better future.

I know the heartbeat of the community and the many challenges that families, seniors, and our youth are facing in some of our city's, state's, and country's worst economic times. First of all, I have publicly acknowledged that these challenges exist; I do not make it a practice to ignore issues or find comfort in ignoring them, no matter how big or small. I have never found it difficult to address real issues that affect the people of our community and the future of our city, no matter how difficult they seem. As mayor, I will put an end to big talk and speculative propaganda. I will not give citizens false hope or empty promises. Our once-working families need jobs now, not jobs posted on a billboard.

More than ever, citizens are seeking good leadership, which I offer. My actions as a public servant have never been about an election or re-election;

just doing the right thing has always driven me. I have worked very hard to build confidence and trust in our local government ever since the injection-well issue.

Many of my constituents believe I have earned that trust, and I have been recognized and awarded numerous times for outstanding and invaluable leadership to our city and state. I was presented a special tribute by State Senator Raymond Basham for invaluable contributions to the City of Romulus, and a certificate of special Congressional recognition by former Congresswoman Lynn Rivers for outstanding and invaluable service to the City. I have taken the initiative and made the effort to educate myself to become a better community leader, and have been recognized for those efforts.

My ten years as a City Council member, including four years as Chairwoman Pro Tem, have shown the people I am a fighter for "the little guy," the underdog; the voice of the silent with the desire to be heard. Even if I do not agree with someone, everyone deserves to be heard, and I have made it a practice to listen respectfully.

Over my tenure, I have always led with my heart and openly shown compassion to others, motivated by a competitive spirit. I know and respect the value of public service, and take it very

seriously. I have made good decisions, using public values to solve problems, and have identified them with good public choices. I am fair and equitable; that is why I have twice voted "no" on elected officials' raises. You can not send one message to the bargaining units claiming budget restraints, yet give officials large raises. Hard work and learning new things do not intimidate me.

With confidence, I can say that I am the better candidate in meeting today's needs and tomorrow's demands in an ever-changing political environment. I know what my responsibilities would be as mayor, and I know the sources of the authority that comes with the job. I would never exceed the authority that was granted to me by the citizens of Romulus. I know I am a worthy candidate; my opponent has even stated it publicly. I have never lost sight of where I have come from and who has elected me. My mission is to strengthen and promote Romulus as a center of opportunity. We, as citizens, must first believe we are the Gateway to the World, then others will believe it, too. □

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## SEMCOG Dinner



The Romulus Middle School Leadership Group – under the direction of teacher Betty Santo (front, second from right) – hosted a dinner recognizing the leaders of a Romulus Middle School after-school tutoring program funded by a grant from the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG). Special guests at the event included 34th District Court Judge Brian A. Oakley (back, left), RMS principal Phyllis Adkins (back, second from left), and grant author Glenn Helmsley (back, right). Also pictured are: (from left) front – Tamara Garrison, Ryan McLachlan, and Jazmyn Jones; middle – Tierra Garrison, Carmen Plank, Amanda Wagle, and Ashley Linnert; back – Ashley Wagle, Sheila Reeves, Karli Gibson, and LeAnne Dawson.



Leadership Group teacher Santo (left) and RMS principal Adkins (right) congratulated RMS SEMCOG grant writer Helmsley, who was honored for his efforts to secure funding for the RMS after-school tutoring program for the past two years.

## The Police Blotter

continued from page 12

- 9:49 a.m. – Fraud Complaint (block of 6690 Ball)
- 10:23 a.m. – Larceny (block of 28400 Highland)
- 1:31 p.m. – Felonious Assault (block of 6970 Niagara)
- 2:46 p.m. – Abandoned Vehicle (block of 35600 Herman)
- 3:09 p.m. – Threats (block of 35700 Park Pl.)
- 6:31 p.m. – Disturbance (block of 34200 Pine Wood Cir.)
- 7:13 p.m. – A&B (block of 15000 Streamway)
- 8:57 p.m. – Larceny (block of 35900 Ecorse)

### Wednesday, October 26

- 8:08 a.m. – Abandoned Vehicle (block of 36800 Ecorse)
- 9:10 a.m. – Threats (block of 28900 Goddard)
- 10:04 a.m. – Larceny (block of 39300 Montana)
- 4:08 p.m. – JC/R (block of 30600 Dru)
- 4:10 p.m. – Larceny (block of 28000 Willow Tree)
- 4:59 p.m. – Fraud Complaint (block of 5800 Wayne)
- 6:01 p.m. – B&E (block of 16700 Inkster)

### Thursday, October 27

- 10:19 a.m. – Disturbance (block of 15000 Mountain Way)
- 10:26 a.m. – PD/MDOP (block of 6190 Dexter)
- 2:51 p.m. – Fight (block of 36400 Eureka)
- 2:53 p.m. – Recovered UDAA (block of 29100 Wick)
- 3:20 p.m. – Disturbance (block of 39000 Superior)
- 3:42 p.m. – Larceny (block of 29300 Northline)
- 4:53 p.m. – Recovered UDAA (block of 27400 Ecorse)
- 5:12 p.m. – Fight (block of 9440 Biddle)
- 6:09 p.m. – Shots Fired (block of 9520 Biddle)
- 6:10 p.m. – JC/R (reported at RPD headquarters)

- 10:04 p.m. – Threats (block of 6840 Middlebelt)
- Friday, October 28**
- 6:55 a.m. – Larceny (block of 15300 Wahrman)
  - 7:07 a.m. – Larceny (block of 30800 Flynn Dr.)
  - 3:43 p.m. – A&B (block of 34800 Julie)
  - 3:54 p.m. – PD/MDOP (block of 16200 Oakbrook)
  - 4:11 p.m. – B&E (block of 11100 Harrison)
  - 5:59 p.m. – Threats (block of 35500 Hawthorne Dr.)
  - 9:04 p.m. – Larceny (block of 6900 Inkster)
  - 10:19 p.m. – Felonious Assault (block 15000 Pond Way)
  - 11:56 p.m. – B&E (block of 29100 Ecorse)

### Saturday, October 29

- 2:56 a.m. – Disturbance (block of 34500 Beverly)
- 5:55 a.m. – CSC (block of 8100 Cogswell)
- 11:16 a.m. – PD/MDOP (block of 7980 Fallow Ct.)
- 2:19 p.m. – Family Trouble (block of 15000 Mountain Way)
- 2:52 p.m. – Larceny (block of 9030 Gabriel)
- 3:06 p.m. – Disturbance (block of 9190 Wickham)
- 7:48 p.m. – Trespassing (block of 5980 Esther)
- 8:47 p.m. – Disturbance (block of 7000 Merriman)
- 10:30 p.m. – PD/MDOP (block of 9270 Middlebelt)
- 10:44 p.m. – Loud Music (block of 6400 Irma)
- 11:02 p.m. – Loud Music (block of 38700 Wade)
- 11:17 p.m. – Threats (block of 39000 Cherokee)
- 11:47 p.m. – Shots Fired (block of 35900 Goddard)
- 11:48 p.m. – Disturbance (block of 11500 Ozga)

### Sunday, October 30

- 12:27 a.m. – Disturbance (block of 5820 Middlebelt)
- 1:15 a.m. – OUIL (block of 35400 Ecorse)
- 1:42 a.m. – OUIL (block of 7100 Middlebelt)
- 2:57 a.m. – OUIL (block of 13000 Wayne)
- 7:06 a.m. – Larceny (block of 29300 Airport Dr.)
- 8:43 a.m. – Family Trouble (block of 15400 Harriet)
- 10:21 a.m. – JC/R (block of 8230 Merriman)
- 11:11 a.m. – Family Trouble (block of 35400 N. Alexander)
- 6:22 p.m. – OUIL (block of 9110 Wayne) □



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PEN Youth's trip to Cedar Point.



## Lansing Update

### Working To Create High-tech Jobs

By State Representative Hoon-Yung Hopgood, 22nd District

In late September, the House passed a package of bills to help create jobs in Michigan. The package contains a plan to invest \$1 billion to create high-tech jobs in our state and diversify Michigan's economy. The Senate recently considered and passed the bills with few changes. The bills were sent back to the House on October 19 for our concurrence. However, House Republican leadership has not yet brought the bills up for consideration. My Democratic colleagues and I have been urging the Speaker to vote on these bills so that they can go before Governor Granholm for her consideration and approval.

#### House Democrats Introduce Insurance Reform Plan

House Democrats recently introduced a plan that will strengthen consumer protection and hold insurance companies accountable for charging excessive rates. Michigan's auto and homeowners' insurance rates remain the highest in the Midwest. Though the insurance industry receives several tax breaks, its rates continue to climb dramatically. Since 1999, auto insurance rates in Michigan increased between 45% and 90%, while the average homeowner's costs have risen 84% since 2000. Our proposal would:

- require insurance companies to roll back rates 20%;
- establish an Office of Insurance Ratepayer Advocate to protect consumers' interests and ensure affordable rates; and
- force the Michigan Catastrophic Claim Association (MCCA)—an independent insurance fund that pays for the care of severely injured motorists—to comply with the Open Meetings Act, add public members to its board, and open its records.

Insurance companies must be held accountable to the public. I have always supported opening the MCCA up to the Open Meetings Act. It is reasonable and necessary to require companies to open their meetings/records to public scrutiny. Insurance rates are skyrocketing, and the public deserves to know why.

#### Prohibit Cell Phone Use by Young Drivers

House Bill 5133 would prohibit all persons under the age of 18 from using interactive wireless communication devices while driving, except in the case of an emergency. Violating this bill is punishable by a fine of \$50.

I supported the bill, and it was passed by a vote of 78–27.

#### Presentations on Public School Employee Healthcare and Rigorous Curriculum

On Wednesday, October 19, the House Committee on Education heard a presentation from the Hay Group on their recent study, entitled "Report on the Feasibility and Cost-Effectiveness of a Consolidated Statewide Health Benefits System for Michigan Public School Employees."

The report, released in July, was commissioned by the Legislative Council, and presents an actuarial study of potential cost savings found by placing all public school employees into a state-run health-care system.

The discussion surrounding Governor Granholm's recent call for a rigorous mandatory curriculum for Michigan's high schools continued in the House Education Committee on October 26. The Committee heard a presentation from the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Mike Flanagan.

Mr. Flanagan spoke with urgency about the efforts of the Michigan Department of Education, the State Board of Education, and the Governor as they look for ways to institute a more rigorous curriculum focused on math, science, and language arts. Such a curriculum would better help to prepare our students for the jobs of the twenty-first century.

I applaud the leadership provided by Mr. Flanagan and Governor Granholm on this very important and timely issue.

#### Resolutions To Honor the Life of Rosa Parks

Two House Resolutions were adopted to honor the life of Rosa Parks, who contributed to the betterment of the nation and all humanity through her commitment to human equality and civil rights.

Ms. Parks was an active citizen of the State of Michigan and the City of Detroit from 1957 until her death on October 24, 2005.

#### Children of Veterans Tuition Program Checkoff Option

House Bill 5091 would print a check-off box on the State Income Tax Refund form that will allow a taxpayer to donate \$2 or more of his/her refund to the Children of Veterans Tuition Program. This program provides college tuition loans and grants for the children of military veterans. This income tax check-off will provide funds to help keep the tuition program solvent.

The bill was passed unanimously, and is now before the Senate. □

### Merriman Welcomes New Parents



Principal Shellie Moore (back, second from right) and social worker Renee Kish (back, second from left) welcomed new parents who attended a recent "get-acquainted" dinner at the school. Attendees like Tiffany Kovenich (back, left) and her son Hunter (front, left), and Brian Kowalski (back, right) and his stepdaughter Jessica Dockery, enjoyed the chance to learn more about the school's rules, procedures, and policies in a friendly atmosphere.

### Halecreek Welcomes Three Student Teachers from WMU

Halecreek Elementary principal Kellie Knight was pleased to introduce her school's three new student teachers from Western Michigan University. This year, both Halecreek and Merriman are hosting student teachers from WMU.

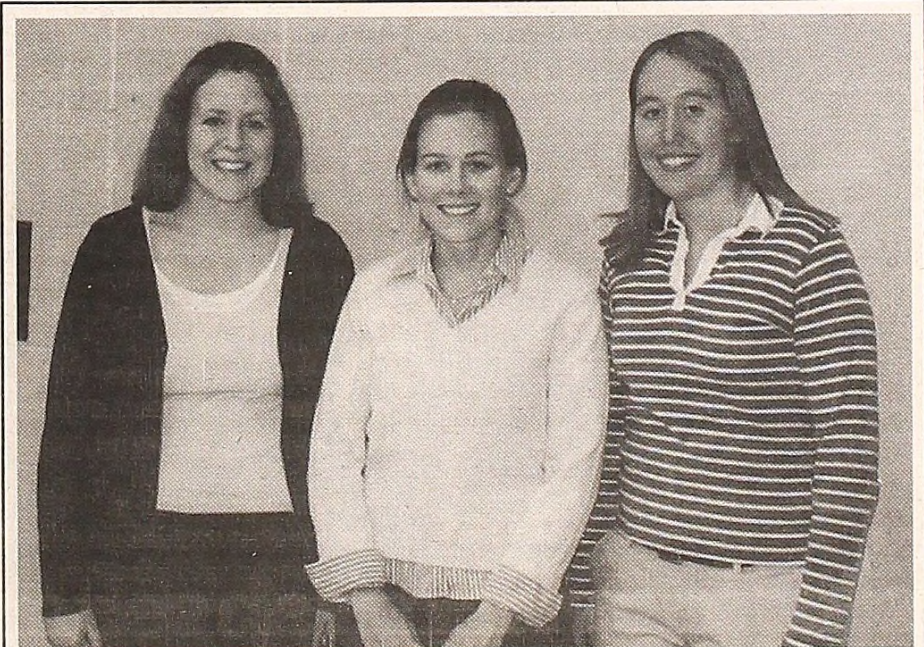
Knight welcomed Laura Rivard, who is working with first-grade teacher Sandy Godbout; Tabetha Waddle, who is paired with sixth-grade teacher Julie Hirschert; and Ellen Piotrowski, who is working with second-grade teacher Sarah Carter.

Rivard is a graduate of Dearborn Divine Child High School, where she was an honor-roll student as well as a member of the French Club and the

girls' tennis team. At Western, she was active in the St. Thomas Moore leadership organization.

Waddle, a Grosse Ile High School alumna, was an honor-roll student, a cheerleader, and a member of the track team. At WMU, she has been on the Dean's List for academic achievement, and she is currently coaching the Livonia Franklin JV cheerleaders.

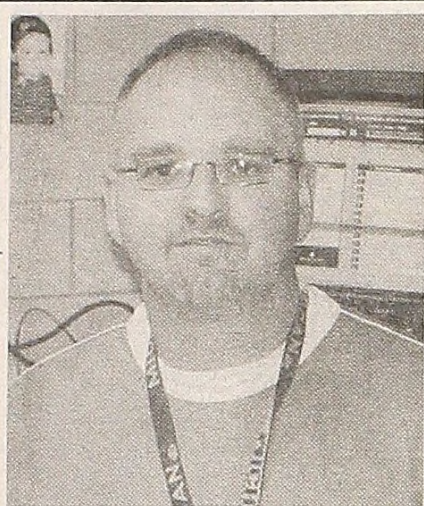
Piotrowski, a Dean's List student at Gabriel Richard High School, was a member of the girls' track and cross-country teams. At Western, she is a member of Alpha Lambda Delta, an academic honors sorority. □



Halecreek's student teachers for the fall of 2005 are (from left) Laura Rivard, Tabetha Waddle, and Ellen Piotrowski.



## "Romulus Masters" Golf Event Nets \$270 for Hurricane Relief



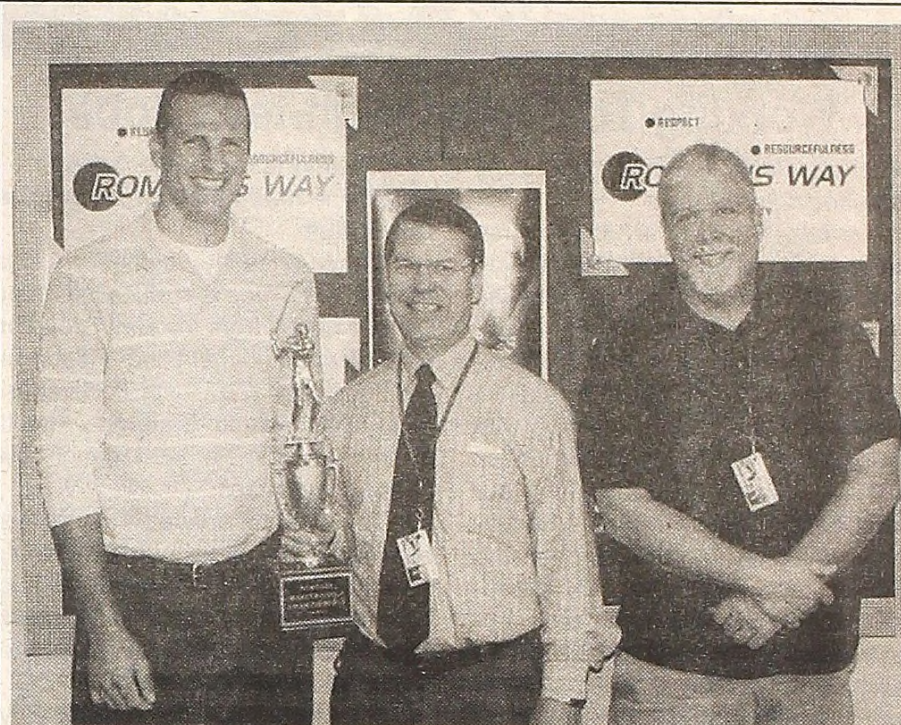
Romulus Middle School teachers Keith Brothers (above) and Brian Wietfeld organized the first-ever Romulus Masters Golf Tourney.

Romulus Middle School teachers Keith Brothers and Brian Wietfeld recently organized a scramble golf tournament to benefit American Red Cross hurricane relief efforts. The after-school event was held at the Gateway Golf Club in Romulus.

Teams competing for the new "Romulus Masters" trophy (donated by RMS principal Phyllis Adkins) came from different schools within the district.

Finishing in a tie for first place (with a score of three under par) were the teams from Romulus High School and Cory Elementary School. Members of the RHS team were assistant principal Don Foley, behavior specialist Chuck Hughes, and student teacher Chris Thomas; Cory team members were learning specialist Rob Baty, sixth-grade teacher Paul Grange, physical-education teacher Tony Holyszko, and "guest" Scott Jastrzab, a fourth-grade teacher at Barth Elementary. The teams will take turns displaying the trophy at their schools throughout the school year.

Prizes were also awarded to winners of the "long drive" and "closest to pin" contests. "Long drive" winners were Tony Holyszko for the men and Melissa Kielman for the women; "closest to pin" winners were Don Foley (two), Phyllis Adkins, and Nancy Schonscheck. All the winners donated their prize money to the relief fund. □



Members of the co-champion team from Romulus High School were (from left) Chris Thomas, Don Foley, and Chuck Hughes.

## "Second Step" Program Helps Youth

Shirley Brezzell of the Hegira Foundation was recently at Romulus High School to present a program designed to help local youth cope with the many pressures and challenges they face as they mature.

The program—called "Second Step"—stressed skills for dealing with problems like peer pressure, anger, and drugs. Also addressed were topics such as the importance of staying in school and graduating.

Presenter Brezzell additionally covered parenting skills that young mothers might need, and introduced infor-

mation about the Young Mother's Assistance Program.

She concluded the program with an informative question-and-answer period.

Additional Romulus Community Schools staff members who helped to organize the program, which was funded by a youth assistance grant, included Romulus Middle School principal Phyllis Adkins, Cory Elementary School principal Dorothy West, and Cory staff members Irene Sandusky (paraprofessional), Janice Barden (co-parent coordinator), and Reverend Rita Talley (co-parent coordinator). □



Organizers of the Second Step grant program for Romulus youth were (from left) Irene Sandusky, Janice Barden, Phyllis Adkins, Shirley Brezzell (of the Hegira Foundation), Reverend Rita Talley, and Dorothy West.



The co-champion Cory team's members included Paul Grange (left) and Rob Baty, as well as (not pictured) Tony Holyszko and Scott Jastrzab.

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# Romulus Community Schools Win 3 MASB State Finalist Awards

The Michigan Association of School Boards recognized the Romulus Community Schools for a number of outstanding programs during the MASB's Fall Leadership Conference, held in the Lansing Civic Center on October 29. Approximately 500 board of education members from throughout the state looked on as MASB officials presented Romulus with three of the group's nine "Michigan's Best" awards.

"The Romulus school district is the first district to win three of the MASB's nine state finalist awards in the 12-year history of the Michigan's Best program," explained Dick Kruse, PR director for Romulus Community Schools. "Our district also set an all-time record by winning 5 of 28 awards in the preliminary round of judging last spring.

"Now the MASB will present the nine Michigan's Best finalists to the National Association of School Boards for national consideration," he added.

Each of the Romulus school district's award-winning programs received an "Eddy" trophy, a commemorative plaque, and a check for \$1,000 to fund further program work. The three programs were "STEP" (Barth Elementary School), "Body Phonics" (Wick Elementary School), and "Senior Project" (Romulus High School).

Students and Teachers Exercising with Pedometers (STEP) was the winner in the MASB's "Health and School Safety" category. Developed by physical-education teacher Sheila Stasak, the program is intended to help participants develop and maintain healthy lifestyle habits. Students (and teachers) wear pedometers to keep track of how far they walk, and record their names and distance milestones on paper "footprints" that are displayed along the school's hallways. STEP also sharpens students' math skills by requiring them to graph their progress and their pulse rates. According to Kruse, the program helped Barth more than double the number of students who passed their grade-level physical-fitness assessments.

Wick's Body Phonics program won a Michigan's Best Award in the "Serving At-risk Students" division. Teacher Chris Consales developed the program to help students who were having difficulty learning to read. The program uses storytelling and hand signals to link sounds to letter shapes. Classroom teachers and after-school tutors have effectively used Body Phonics to help their students learn, said Kruse. Wick students have made significant improvements, as measured by the Woodcock Reading Mastery Test, administered in classroom and after-school sessions.

The Senior Project – originated by RHS principal Dan Hurst and developed by language-arts teachers Serena Kessler and Dr. Jaime Nelson Wukie – won in the MASB's "Service Learning" category. Completion of the program, which is a prerequisite for graduation, requires each student to prepare a project on a socially relevant issue. The student must begin by enlisting the assistance of a mentor, learning a skill related to his/her project, performing a community service using that skill, and then prepare a multimedia presentation about the project for his/her peers, parents, and community members.

RCS superintendent Joel R. Carr noted, "These MASB awards brought a great deal of positive recognition to the Romulus Community Schools and the entire community. The Board of Education and I both celebrate the outstanding achievement of our staff members."

Tom Dolan, Curriculum Department director for the Romulus Community Schools, was also pleased with the district's record-setting achievement.

"Our staff worked very hard over a long period of time to develop these outstanding programs," he said. "Everyone really enjoyed the awards ceremonies, and we received many favorable comments about our accomplishments."

Copies of the district's original programs were sent to over 1,300 administrators and school board members across Michigan. □



Sheila Stasak (second from right), physical-education teacher at Barth Elementary, made a presentation at the Michigan Association of School Boards Fall Conference after garnering an MASB "Eddy" Award for her innovative STEP program. She was supported by: (from left) front – Paul Stasak, Val Discuillo, Jodi Stasak, Lisa Watts, Sue Mitchell, Jim Stasak, and Mary Oakley; back – James Stasak, Tami Taylor, and Diane Golka.



Wick Elementary resource teacher Chris Consales (center) and after-school tutoring supervisor Tom Plum (left) received their \$1,000 prize check from Charles Miller of the SET-SEG Insurance Trust, sponsor of the "Michigan's Best" program.



Romulus High School teachers Jamie Wukie and Serena Kessler (front, left and right) – proudly showing off their recognition plaques and Eddy trophy – were congratulated by (from left) Board of Education trustee Cheryle Buckley, Board secretary Kenneth Mientkiewicz, Romulus Community Schools curriculum director Tom Dolan, RHS principal Dan Hurst, and Board treasurer Niema White.

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## RHS Students Enjoy Youth Empowerment Conference



RHS counselor Florence Satterlee welcomed Keith Jason, who talked about the need for courage in facing life's obstacles.



Raason King's session explored the ways that information can influence people's perceptions of others.

Students at Romulus High School recently participated in a Youth Empowerment Conference that explored ways to deal with the many obstacles faced by today's teens both inside and outside the school environment. The conference was presented by ConsulTeens & Associates, a company founded by 1995 RHS alumna Rogjett Peterson.

"Peterson was an excellent student at RHS, and was active in student government, activities, and the band program," said Dick Kruse, Public Relations director for the Romulus Community Schools. "She is a graduate of the University of Michigan, where she majored in psychology, and she has had experience as a fourth-grade teacher and residential youth counselor."

According to Kruse, ConsulTeens & Associates is a company committed to youth and young adults. The firm provides training and development programs designed to empower young leaders so that they can better serve their communities.

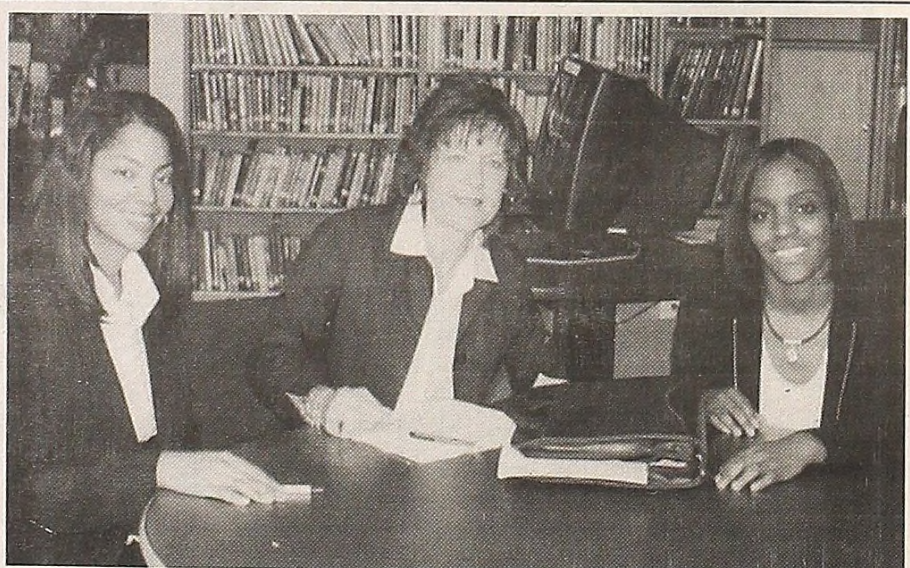
The Youth Empowerment Conference held at Romulus High School fo-

cused on subjects such as emotional and physical health, purpose and destiny, goal-setting, endurance, finances, and academics. Students were given the opportunity to attend several different workshops, such as "Discovering Your Path" and "The Choices You Make." A number of dynamic speakers presented information that could help students better understand themselves and their classmates. The workshops also challenged students to look deep inside themselves to make good decisions and "do the right thing" in the future.

Dan Hurst, principal at Romulus High School, was very impressed with the Youth Empowerment Conference sessions.

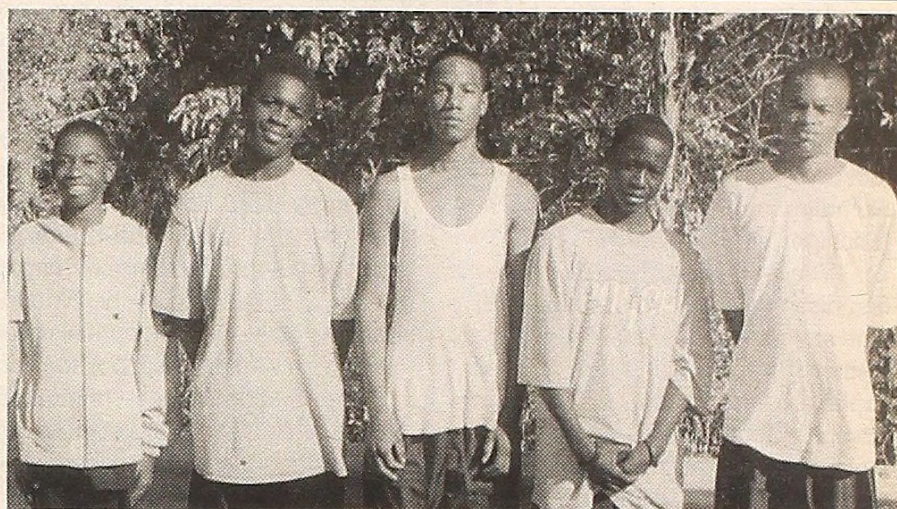
"They really made students think about what they are currently doing, and what they will have to do in the future to reach their goals," he said.

Romulus High School counselors Liza Mockeridge, Florence Satterlee, and LaToya Shackelford invited ConsulTeens & Associates to RHS and made all the necessary arrangements for the conference. □



RHS counselor LaToya Shackelford (left) welcomed ConsulTeens & Associates founder Rogjett Peterson (right) and staff member Becky Demorest to the school for the Youth Empowerment Conference.

## RHS Sports



Romulus High School cross-country team members who were out for a recent practice included (from left) Don Davis, Daniel Davis, Andreas Tatum, Donnell Jones, and Ron Kersey.



Members of the 12-0 Mega Blue Division champion RHS girls' tennis team include: (from left) front – Jennifer Hunter, Courtney MacDougall, and Atari Burutolu; middle – Aurielle McCauley, Janeice McNeal, and Jennifer Logan; back – Coach Kathleen Forest, Jennifer Dick, Jessica Dick, Joy Jendritz, Joya McNeal, and Jackie Logan. The Lady Eagles also won seven of eight first-place trophies at the League meet, and more than doubled the second-place team's point totals.



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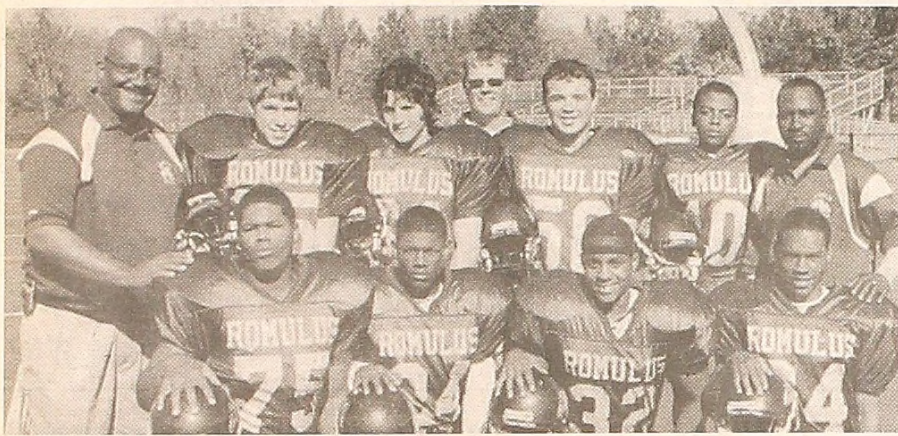
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## RMS Sports



Thom Patterson (back), head coach of the Romulus Middle School football team, and his assistant coaches, Mike Jones (middle, left) and Dennis Carter (middle, right), proudly presented the leading players on their 5-0, unscored-upon Bulldogs: (from left) front – Armonti Yarbrough, Marcel Rogers, Jordon Haywood, and Aaron Bailey; middle – Jason Moore, Jesse Norman, Jonathan Perez, and Derrick Stewart. Bailey is averaging nearly 25 yards per carry for the season, and has already established a new school record for rushing in a single season.



Kellee Kobane (left), coach of the seventh-grade girls' basketball team at RMS, is thrilled with the performance of her 8-2 Lady Bulldogs: (from left) front – Brittany Forbes, Brittany Glenn, Chelsea Thomas, Monae Riley, Jennifer Sylvester, and Brianna Glenn; back – Pamela Johnson, Chelsea Roper, Rachel Stanley, Chaunce Little, Cailyn Mines, Adrianna Williams, and Courtney Kennedy.



RMS eighth-grade girls' basketball coach Melissa Keilman (back, center) has worked hard with her 4-6 Lady Bulldogs: (from left) front – Ciera Franklin and Cierra Cohen; middle – Dominique Carroll, Ashlee Wade, LaJae Patton, Rashida Harrison, and Briana Jones; back – Ashley Watley, Brianna Shreve, Beizhonn Davis, Brooke Tanner, and Rola Emanuel.

## RMS Football Coach Williams Celebrates His 100th Victory



Romulus Middle School assistant football coach Tom Williams (holding banner) celebrated his 100th victory when the RMS Bulldogs defeated River Rouge by a score of 32-0. Williams, who has been a coach since 1983, has compiled a record of 100-22 over the span of more than two decades. Coaches who have worked with Williams over the course of his career include: (from left) front – Thom Patterson (current head coach) and Dennis Carter (current assistant coach); back – David Jones, John Moomaw, Romulus High School assistant principal Don Foley (longtime head coach of the RMS football team), Kelvin Valentine, Damon Brown, and Mike Jones (current assistant coach).

Romulus Middle School head football coach Thom Patterson was happy to present his assistant, Tom Williams, with several awards in recognition of his recent 100th victory at the school. This year's undefeated and unscored-upon RMS Bulldogs had just defeated River Rouge by a score of 32-0.

Williams, currently in his 23rd season of coaching, has posted a win-loss record of 100-22 during his coaching career.

Patterson presented Williams with a game ball (with "100th victory" on it) and a commemorative plaque for his many contributions to the school's athletic programs.

"Tom Williams has not only been a strong force behind our football program, but he has also spent his own money to construct and maintain our many RMS athletic showcases," said Patterson. "We are proud of our many athletic achievements, and Tom Williams's decades of hard work and dedication have had a lot to do with our success."

After thanking Patterson for his kind remarks, Williams said, "It has been a real pleasure to work with the other coaches associated with the program, as well as the students and teachers at RMS. ... I really like it when my former players come back to say 'hello,' and I can tell them that we are doing business just like we did when they were team members," he added.

Although Williams retired from the

Romulus Community Schools in June of 2002 after a 27-year teaching career, he has continued to give his time, effort, and financial support to the Bulldogs football team. Coach Williams has also developed an outstanding Web site ([www.rmsbulldogfootball.com](http://www.rmsbulldogfootball.com)) with additional information about the team.

Current and former coaches, this year's team, and local parents shared in several loud cheers of appreciation for all Williams's efforts. Among the current and former coaches who attended the ceremony were onetime RMS head coach Don Foley as well as Damon Brown, Dennis Carter, David Jones, Mike Jones, John Moomaw, and Kelvin Valentine. □

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## Spirit Leaders



Following a fine fall season, Romulus High School's cheerleaders will soon be entering competitions. Among the team's members are: (from left) front – Shakita Wilson; second row – Britney Harrison and Megan Whalen; third row – Audrey Heim and Nistosha Rhea; fourth row – LaRhonda Colvin, Brittnee Shreve, La'Britney Franklin, and Ashlee Wells; back – Britany Howard, Jena Paisley, Tamara Myles, and Krystle McKay.



Members of the Romulus Middle School cheerleading team include: (from left) front – Jaylin Echols, Ashley Bush, Dominique Holmes, and Angelic Blackman; middle – Briana Boyd, Tia Evans, Beatrice Boyd, Danyale Taylor, and Destiny Swanigan; back – Nadia Watson, Brittani Lincoln, Sierra Brown, Natalie Brown, and Cherra Ross.



RMS pom-pom team members are: (from left) front – Karen Cline, Diamond Dortch, and Shavon Washington; back – Reyonna Collins, Shauntia Sanford, Briana McVay, Jessica Jones, and Naikiya Yeamen.

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## Community Calendar

- **Flu Shots** – Flu shots will be available to *people of all ages* at the Romulus Senior Center (temporarily located in Progressive Hall, 11580 Ozga) on Friday, November 4, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. The shots are free to anyone with Medicare "B"; all others pay \$22. Pneumonia shots (\$35) will also be available. To ensure that enough serum will be on hand, the Center is asking all participants to make an appointment. For more info, call 734-941-6009.
- **Holiday Arts & Crafts Show** – The Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce will host its seventh annual Holiday Arts & Crafts Show in the cafeteria at Belleville High School (501 West Columbia Avenue) on Saturday, November 5. Everyone welcome!
- **Craft Show at St. Paul's Church** – St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church is hosting a craft and vendor show at the church (corner of Craig and Ellis Streets, New Boston) on Saturday, November 12, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- **Barth Craft Bazaar** – Barth Elementary School will host its third annual Craft/Vendor Bazaar from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, November 19, at the school (38207 Barth Road). Crafters/vendors interested in participating may contact Theresa Beard, parent coordinator, at either 734-532-1250 or 734-941-7482. Fees are \$20 per space and \$5 per table (limited); electricity available (limited). Deadline for registration is Monday, November 14.
- **Goodfellows Paper Drive** – The Romulus Goodfellows will conduct their annual newspaper drive on Friday, December 2, and Saturday, December 3. The group is asking local businesses and organizations to purchase sponsorship advertisements in the paper, which is used to raise money for the Goodfellows' "No child (or senior citizen) without a Christmas" program. For more information, please call City of Romulus PR director Kathleen Trent (734-955-4503) no later than November 7. Trent is also inviting local businesses/organizations hosting holiday programs and/or Goodfellows fund-raisers to submit information about their events for inclusion in the newspaper's Holiday Calendar section. Copy deadline is November 7.
- **Cory To Host Arts & Crafts Show** – Cory Elementary School will host its second annual Arts & Crafts Show at the school (35200 Smith Road, at Wayne Road) on Saturday, December 3, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Vendor spaces (10'x10') are still available; call parent coordinators Janice Barden or Reverend Rita Talley at 734-532-1305 (days) or 734-942-0456 (evenings) for more information.
- **Christmas Parade** – The Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce is seeking entries for its annual Christmas Parade, set for Saturday, December 3. For more information, call 734-697-7151.
- **Head Start Still Accepting Registrations** – Romulus Head Start (located in the Burton Center at 35408 Beverly Road) is still accepting registrations for the 2005–2006 school year. Parents of children who will be 3 years old on or before December 1, 2005, and who meet various other requirements (call 734-532-1900 for details), may register. The following materials should be brought to registration: the child's birth certificate, child's and parent's Social Security cards, child's immunization records, child's doctors' names/addresses, parent's proof of residency (valid driver's license or state ID), family's health insurance card(s), parent's proof of employment, and income proofs such as W-2 or 1040 forms or FIA/TANF breakdowns. Please allow at least one hour to complete the registration process.
- **Parent/Child Program for Two-year-olds** – Huron Countryside Co-op Nursery – a nonprofit, nondiscriminatory organization – is still accepting applications for its "Just You & Me" parent/child program for two-year-olds. The class meets Wednesdays from 10 to 11:15 a.m. at St. Paul's Lutheran Church (19109 Craig Street, New Boston). For more information, call Audra Timpko at 734-654-1760.
- **Nursery Accepting Applications** – Huron Countryside Co-op Nursery – a nonprofit, nondiscriminatory organization – is still accepting applications for the 2005–2006 school year. The class for three-year-olds focuses on learning through play to enhance social skills; the class for four-year-olds emphasizes kindergarten readiness skills. HCCN is located in St. Paul's Lutheran Church (19109 Craig Street, New Boston). For more information, call Maria Wroblewski at 734-753-5999.

To place information in our next issue's Community Calendar,  
mail it to "the little paper" at P.O. Box 74038, Romulus, MI 48174-0038;  
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## Sassy Seniors

By Mary E. Clark

Special thanks to Linda Norman, senior citizens program coordinator for the City of Romulus Department of Parks and Recreation, for contributing information to this issue's "Sassy Seniors" column. (For more information about events at Romulus Senior Center, temporarily located at Romulus Progressive Hall, call 734-941-6009.)

### Deadline for Absentee Ballots

Just a reminder that the deadline for requesting an absentee ballot for the November 8 General Election is Saturday, November 5. The Romulus City Clerk's office (11111 South Wayne Road) will be open that day from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. for your convenience.

### Free Oil Change

Romulus High School's "auto lab" students are inviting Romulus senior citizens to sign up for a free oil change (oil change, filter, and up to five quarts of oil, plus fluids top-off, air-pressure check, and front-end parts greased) on Friday, November 18, between 8 and 11 a.m. Early sign-up is strongly recommended, since a limited number of appointments are available. Call the Center for more information.

### Holiday Gala Buffet

The Romulus Senior Center's annual Holiday Gala Buffet will be held at the Doubletree Hotel on Wednesday, December 21, beginning at 10 a.m. The menu will consist of scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage links, home-style breakfast potatoes, buttermilk biscuits with sausage gravy, French toast, sliced seasonal fruit, assorted breakfast breads, and coffee/tea/decaf/milk/orange juice.

Cost for the buffet is just \$12 per person; seniors who attended the 2004 event will receive a \$4 discount compliments of U.S. Park. Early sign-up is strongly recommended.

### Flu Shots

The Romulus Senior Center will join with Visiting Nurse Association Home Support Services to offer flu shots on Friday, November 4, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Shots are free to seniors with Medicare B; all others will pay \$22. Pneumonia shots (\$35) will be offered, as well.

### Walk for Your Health

Ride the Senior Center's van to Wayne County Community College's Western Campus each Monday and Friday (except November 11 and November 25) at 12:30 p.m. for an hour of safe indoor walking at your own pace. Sign up at the Center to reserve your seat.

The Center strongly urges anyone considering a change in his/her exercise program to consult a doctor beforehand.

### Regular Programs

Besides the many special activities offered at the Romulus Senior Center, a number of regularly scheduled free or low-cost programs are also open to local senior citizens, including:

- Bunco (Tuesdays, 1 p.m.),
- Bingo (Wednesdays, 1 p.m.),
- Fun Night (Wednesdays, 5 p.m.),
- Game Day (Thursdays, 1 to 3 p.m.).

### Red Hat Society Meets

The Romulus Senior Center is now an official member of Red Hat Society Chapter #40741. The group's upcoming events include a trip to the Detroit Zoo on Saturday, November 5, and the Red Apple restaurant on Saturday, November 12.

For information on joining, e-mail [romulusredhatsociety@yahoo.com](mailto:romulusredhatsociety@yahoo.com) or call the Center.

### Club One Meets

Club One – a social group for local senior citizens – meets at the Romulus Senior Center each Tuesday at 11 a.m. (No meeting November 8.)

New faces are always welcome!

### Transportation Schedule

The Romulus Senior Center has established a transportation schedule for pickups at both the Romulus Tower and Whispering Willows.

The transportation schedule for the Tower is:

- Hot Lunch at the Center (weekdays at 10:50 a.m.),
- Bunco (Tuesdays at 12:45 p.m.),
- Bingo (Wednesdays at 12:45 p.m.),
- Fun Night (Wednesdays; call ahead for appointment)
- Game Day (Thursdays; call ahead for appointment)
- Chiropractor visits at the Center (each second and fourth Monday of the month at 12:45 p.m.), and
- Commodities and Focus: HOPE (third Thursday of each month at 11:30 a.m.).

The transportation schedule for Whispering Willows is:

- Club #1 meetings (Tuesdays at 10:45 a.m.).

For all other transportation needs from either the Tower or Whispering Willows, call the Center to make an appointment.

### Yard Waste Pickup Ends

Just a reminder that the week of November 28 through December 2 will be the last for yard waste pickup in Romulus. □

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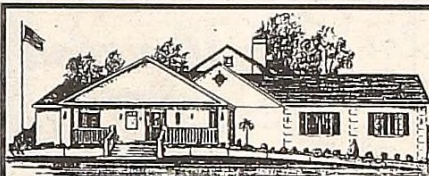
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Name and phone number of person to contact (in case of questions): \_\_\_\_\_

• Attach any additional information concerning the birth to this form.

**ENGAGEMENT/WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENT FORM**

If you, or your parents, are residents of Romulus, *The Romulus News* will be happy to print an announcement of your engagement or wedding. If possible, please enclose a photograph. There is no charge. Just fill out the following information and mail to:

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Bride's Name \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_  
Groom's Name \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_  
Bride's Parents \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_  
Groom's Parents \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_  
Bridesmaids \_\_\_\_\_  
Groomsmen \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Engagement \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Wedding \_\_\_\_\_  
Place \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_  
Reception \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_  
Name and phone number of person to contact (in case of questions): \_\_\_\_\_

Attach any additional information concerning the wedding or engagement to this form.

# The Stork Arrived

## Emily Lexus Banks

Paul and Jamie Banks of Romulus, Michigan, are proud to announce the birth of their new daughter, Emily Lexus Banks.

Emily was born in Oakwood Annapolis Hospital (Wayne, MI) at 9:08 a.m. on Friday, September 16, 2005, weighing 5 lbs., 5 oz., and measuring 19 in.

Especially excited about the new arrival were older siblings Jordyn Faye and Paul Jr.

Emily's paternal grandparents are Daniel and Linda Banks (Romulus); Mark and Karen Leach (National City, MI) are her maternal grandparents. □



Emily Lexus Banks

# Obituaries

## William E. Harvey, Jr.

William E. Harvey, Jr., of Fife Lake, Michigan, passed away Sunday, October 30, 2005, at the age of 79.

William was born in Traverse City, Michigan, on Tuesday, February 2, 1926. A U.S. Army veteran of World War II, he held the position of assistant chief of the Fife Lake Fire Department for 16 years, and served 16 years on the Springfield Township Board.

William enjoyed pike fishing and small-engine repair, and was a life member of Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9568 (Romulus, MI).

Surviving William are his wife, Alice I. (Dryer) Harvey; 2 sons, Roger A. (Gloria) Harvey (Romulus) and Wayne

L. (Deborah) Harvey (Lincoln Park, MI); a daughter, Denise L. Timmerman (Romulus); a brother, Robert (Arlene) Harvey (Chelsea, MI); 2 sisters, Marge (Ormie) Bredernitz (Saline, MI) and Ruth (Martin) Vila (Kalamazoo, MI); 8 grandchildren; and 9 great-grandchildren.

Those who predeceased him included his parents and a sister, Marilee, who passed away in 1952.

A funeral service was held Wednesday, November 2, at Crane Funeral Home (Romulus), with Pastor Frank Martin (Community Lutheran Church, Flat Rock, MI) officiating. Interment was at Washtenong Memorial Park (Ann Arbor, MI).

## Ilene S. Shaffer

Ilene S. Shaffer of Romulus, Michigan, passed away on Sunday, October 30, 2005, at the age of 77.

The Romulus native was born on Sunday, April 8, 1928.

Ilene sang in the choir at St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church (New Boston, MI), and was a former member of the Ladies Aid Society. She liked dancing, particularly the polka, and was always busy. She especially enjoyed spending time with her family.

Surviving Ilene are 5 sons, Al Cichowski (Romulus), Jerry (Sue) Cichowski (Romulus), Randy Cichowski (Taylor, MI), Tim (Betty) Cichowski (Taylor), and William (Cindy) Cichowski (Westland, MI); a stepson, David (Es-

tella) Shaffer (Louisiana); a stepdaughter, Vicki (John) Adams (Howell, MI); 20 grandchildren; 7 great-grandchildren; and a special friend, Louie Gilstorf.

Among those who predeceased her were her parents, Albert and Emma M. (Schwartz) Eberlein; 2 husbands, Joseph Cichowski (who passed away on April 2, 1972) and John Shaffer (May 26, 1992); 2 brothers, Elmer and Albert Eberlein; and a stepson, Herb Barron.

A funeral service was held Wednesday, November 2, at St. Paul's Church, with Reverend D. Lee Cullen, Jr., officiating. Interment was at Huron Valley Cemetery (Flat Rock, MI). Arrangements were entrusted to Crane Funeral Home (Romulus). □

As part of our commitment to community service, *The Romulus News* publishes obituary notices, free of charge, for Romulus residents and their families. For more information, please call us at 734-941-1907.



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# Remember to Vote Tuesday, November 8th

